



# ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

## NEWS RELEASE



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### Oxnard Man Sentenced for Domestic Violence Against Girlfriend

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Salvador Pena Martinez (DOB 05/11/81), of Oxnard, was sentenced on July 21, 2025, to 25 years, four months in state prison for the violent assault of his girlfriend in 2020. Martinez previously pled guilty on April 21, 2025, to inflicting corporal injury, kidnapping, criminal threats, arson of an inhabited structure, evading an officer, and being a felon in possession of a firearm, all of which are felonies. Martinez also admitted to dozens of special allegations and aggravating factors, including causing great bodily injury, that the victim was vulnerable, and strike priors.

On May 17, 2020, Martinez violently attacked his girlfriend during an argument about her cell phone. He tore her clothing, punched her repeatedly, pulled her by the hair, hit her with the phone, choked her until she passed out, and pinned her down with his knees.

After the assault, Martinez forced her into his truck, threatened to get a gun, and continued hitting her while driving. When they arrived at his cousin's house in Port Hueneme, the victim escaped, screamed for help, and said Martinez was going to kill her. His family called police, and Martinez fled before officers from the Port Hueneme and Oxnard Police Departments arrived. The victim was taken to the hospital with a concussion, facial bruising, and head wounds that required staples.

Three days later, on May 20, a fire broke out at the victim's home in the city of Oxnard. Investigators found a gas can near the source of the fire and video footage showing a white pickup truck, similar to Martinez's, in the area at the time.

Martinez was arrested on May 23 for the domestic violence assault and released on bail five days later. On June 4, police saw him driving and tried to stop him for the arson case. Martinez led them on a dangerous chase through Oxnard, nearly hitting people and cars, then abandoned the moving

truck and ran. After resisting arrest and briefly pinning an officer's arm, he was taken into custody. A loaded semi-automatic handgun was found in his truck.

Deputy District Attorney Rikole Kelly, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit, prosecuted the case.

"While the physical and emotional scars of such a brutal attack may linger, we commend the immense resilience and courage demonstrated by the victim and her family throughout this harrowing ordeal," Ms. Kelly said. "With the resolution of this case, we hope they can now begin the process of healing and rebuilding their lives free from fear."

**Case: 2020014888**

**Defendant Information:**

Salvador Pena Martinez (DOB 05/11/81)  
Oxnard

**Charges pled guilty to:**

- PC 273.5(a) – Inflict corporal injury on current/former spouse/cohabitant/fiancé
- PC 207(a) – Kidnapping
- PC 422 – Criminal threats
- PC 451(b) – Arson of an inhabited structure or property
- VC 2800.2(a) – Evading an officer, willful disregard
- PC 29800(a)(1) – Own/Possess/Control firearm by felon or addict
- PC 148(a)(1) – Resist, obstruct, delay of peace officer or EMT

**Special allegations admitted:**

- PC 12022.7(e) – GBI domestic violence
- PC 667S3 – Prior strikes
- PC 1170(h)(3) – Prior serious or violent felony, prison eligibility
- PC 667(a)(1) – Serious felony prior
- CRC 4.421(a)(1) – The crime involved great violence
- CRC 4.421(a)(3) – Victim was vulnerable
- CRC 4.421(a)(11) – The defendant took advantage of a position of trust
- CRC 4.421(b)(1) – Defendant has engaged in violent conduct
- CRC 4.421(b)(2) – The defendant's prior convictions
- CRC 4.421(b)(3) – The defendant has served a prior term in prison or county jail
- CRC 4.421(b)(4) – The defendant was on probation
- CRC 4.421(b)(5) – Defendant's prior performance was unsatisfactory
- PC 451.1(a) – Arson with aggravating factors
- PC 12022.1(b) – Commission of a felony after release on bail or own recognizance

