



ERIK NASARENKO
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
NEWS RELEASE



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Thousand Oaks Man Sentenced to Prison for Gang Assault & Hate Crime

VENTURA Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Javier Gomez (DOB 11/22/05), of Thousand Oaks, was sentenced on May 26, 2026, to five years in state prison for a racially-motivated baseball bat attack on an African American man. Gomez previously pled guilty on April 27, 2026, to one felony count of assault with a deadly weapon. He also admitted all aggravating factors and charged special allegations, including the gang allegation, hate crime allegation and causing great bodily injury.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Hayley Moyer, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Major Crime Gangs Unit, prosecuted the case.

"This brutal, racially motivated attack was fueled by hate and carried out with shocking violence," Ms. Moyer said. "Ventura County prosecutors will not tolerate gang-related violence or crimes targeting individuals because of their race. This sentence holds the defendant accountable and reflects the serious harm inflicted on the victim and our community."

Gomez, a documented gang member, and another juvenile confronted an African American victim while he was walking to his parked vehicle in Thousand Oaks on Dec. 31, 2024. Gomez and the juvenile yelled racial slurs and claimed their gang, before cornering the victim. Gomez, armed with a baseball bat, struck the victim in the forehead, then handed the bat to the juvenile, who struck the victim again in the head. The victim's girlfriend called 911, prompting Ventura County Sheriff's Office deputies to respond to the scene. Gomez and the juvenile were arrested.

The victim, who is not associated with any gang, suffered cognitive and vision issues for several months following the assault.

The minor in this case admitted to charges and was sentenced in juvenile court.

Case: 2024034341

Defendant Information:

Javier Gomez (DOB 11/22/05)

Thousand Oaks

Charges pled to:

- PC 245(a)(1) – Assault with a deadly weapon

Special allegations admitted:

- PC 12022.7(a) – Great bodily injury in commission of a felony
- PC 186.22(b)(1)(c) – Violent felony street gang activity
- PC 422.75(b) – Hate crime in concert
- CRC 4.421(a)(2) – The defendant was armed with and used a weapon
- CRC 4.421(b)(4) – The defendant was on probation

