



ERIK NASARENKO

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE



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Third-Strike Offender Convicted of Domestic Violence with a Firearm in Ventura Encampment

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Yanci Mcclay Dakin (DOB 04/26/80), of Ventura, was convicted by a jury of four felony counts stemming from a domestic violence attack on his girlfriend. Dakin was found guilty of inflicting corporal injury on a cohabitant, assault with a firearm, criminal threats, and discharging of a firearm with gross negligence. Several special allegations and aggravating factors were found to be true, including that Dakin had a previous conviction for causing corporal injury, was armed with and used a weapon, the victim was particularly vulnerable, and that this was his third strike.

Between October 15 and 17, 2025, Dakin was staying with the victim in an encampment near the Santa Clara River in Ventura. Over a three-day period, Dakin beat the victim multiple times, breaking her nose and threatening her with a gun.

On the morning of October 17, 2025, Dakin grabbed his handgun and began looking for someone he believed was outside their camp. He held the gun to the victim's head and face threatening to shoot and kill her. Dakin began firing the gun until he ran out of ammunition. Dakin fled the area and a witness in the encampment called police. Dakin was arrested that evening by the Ventura Police Department.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Rikole Kelly and Deputy District Attorney Darian Cohen, members of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit, prosecuted the case.

"The brutality of this defendant's violence and the fear he inflicted on the women in his life are difficult to overstate," Mr. Cohen said. "The extraordinary courage of the victim and the two additional survivors who came forward ensured that the defendant has been held accountable."

Dakin is scheduled to be sentenced on November 16, 2026, in courtroom 46 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He remains in custody without bail and faces 25 years to life in state prison.

Case #: 2025026669

Defendant Information:

Yanci Mcclay Dakin (DOB 04/26/80)

Ventura

Charges convicted of:

- PC 273.5(a) – Inflict corporal injury on cohabitant
- PC 245(a)(2) – Assault with a firearm
- PC 422(a) – Criminal threats
- PC 246.3(a) – Discharge of firearm with gross negligence

Special allegations found true:

- PC 1192.7(c)(8) – Serious felony
- PC 273.5(f)(1) – Prior conviction for corporal injury
- PC 667S3 – Prior strike 3
- PC 12022(a)(1) – Principal while principal armed
- PC 1170(h)(3) – Prior serious or violent felony
- PC 1203(e)(4) – Three prior offenses
- CRC 4.421(a)(1) – The crime involved great violence
- CRC 4.421(a)(2) – The defendant was armed with and used a weapon
- CRC 4.421(a)(3) – Victim was vulnerable
- CRC 4.421(b)(2) – The defendant's prior convictions were numerous

