



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
**COUNTY OF KERN**

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING  
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301  
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700

ANDREA S. KOHLER  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JOSEPH A. KINZEL  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

June 29, 2023  
**MEDIA ADVISTORY**

**CONTACT:**

William Mord  
(661) 868-2703

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Approved by CJZ  
DA Press Release #23-25

**Jury Returns Guilty Verdict Against Man for Burglary, Vehicle Theft, and Evading Police**

*People v. Raul Cerda: Kern County Superior Court Case BF193779A*

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a guilty conviction on June 22, 2023, involving a vehicle theft that led to a high-speed law enforcement pursuit. In a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney William Mord, a Kern County jury found Defendant Raul Cerda guilty of Reckless Evading of a Peace Officer, Driving a Vehicle in the Opposite Direction of Traffic, Taking a Vehicle Without the Owner's Consent, Burglary in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and Resisting Arrest.

On March 1, 2023, Cerda and Stephen Ingle forced their way into a local business in southwest Bakersfield and stole a work truck valued at \$100,000. Cerda then drove the truck through the fence of the business as they escaped, causing damage. Bakersfield Police officers located the stolen vehicle within an hour of it being stolen and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. Cerda failed to yield to officers and led them on an 18-mile high-speed pursuit from eastbound Hosking Road through southbound Hwy 99. The pursuit concluded after Cerda drove into an orchard and struck several trees on Herring Road. Cerda exited the truck and fled from police on foot. Officers took Cerda into custody and found that Cerda was wearing a bullet proof vest. Officers also arrested Ingle who had fled and found that he was in possession of a loaded firearm.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction, stating; "Cerda's unlawful actions were incredibly dangerous as it not only endangered the lives of officers, but anyone who was out on the road during the high-speed pursuit."

Cerda faces upward of 7 years in prison. Sentencing is set for July 21, 2023, before the Honorable John D. Oglesby in Department 3 of the Kern County Superior Court.

Raul Cerda:

