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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury verdict in a significant homicide case today.

On June 12, 2019, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Joseph Marcano, a Kern County jury convicted Carlos Garcia Jr. of one count of First-Degree Murder with use of a firearm, along with charges for being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

During the evening hours of May 22, 2018, Carlos Garcia Jr. shot and killed his 24 year old girlfriend, Alyson Muniz at her residence located on Abbott Drive in northwest Bakersfield.

The couple had been arguing about their relationship in the front yard of the residence. During the argument, Alyson Muniz ran into her home. Garcia followed her inside, confronted Alyson in the dining room area and assaulted her. During the assault, Garcia produced a handgun and shot Alyson Muniz one time in the head. Alyson died within 15 minutes of the shooting.

After the shooting, Garcia fled the residence on foot, discarding evidence connecting him to the shooting, and hid in a nearby backyard shed of another, unrelated residence. Garcia was apprehended by BPD six days later in Lost Hills, California with assistance from BPD's SWAT team.

Alyson Muniz is survived by her four minor children.

Advised of the verdict, District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented:

"Crimes committed by domestic abusers too often escalate with fatal consequences. Kern County's Family Justice Center is a resource for anyone suffering from domestic abuse that stands ready to provide help to anyone affected by domestic violence."

Sentencing is scheduled for July 11, 2019 where Garcia faces a sentence of up to 80 years-to-life.