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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Approved by JAK**  
**Press Release #59**

**RE: Second-Degree Murder Conviction: Vanessa Wolfe BF 158097**

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction in a homicide case today. On November 15, 2019, a Kern County Jury found Vanessa Wolfe guilty of Second-Degree Murder and an additional charge of assault on a child causing death. The case was prosecuted by DDA Gina Pearl.

On October 30, 2014, 3 month-old Adenalie Leyva was found dead at an apartment on L Street. She had been dead for several hours and had suffered more than sixteen rib fractures, bacterial pneumonia, a massive kidney infection, and sepsis. Adenalie was also severely malnourished and dehydrated.

Medical personnel determined that Adenalie suffered these injuries over a span of two weeks. Adenalie's parents, Vanessa Wolfe and Eddie Leyva, were charged with causing the direct injuries to Adenalie as well as allowing Adenalie to suffer for weeks while doing nothing to help or care for her.

A trial was conducted against both Eddie Leyva and Vanessa Wolfe that began on October 17, 2019, where two separate juries heard evidence on the case. On November 15, 2019, one jury considering charges regarding Vanessa Wolfe returned guilty verdicts for second-degree murder and assault causing the death of Adenalie. On November 21, 2019, a mistrial was declared by Judge Charles Brehmer in regard to the second jury, which was deliberating on the charges related to Eddie Leyva. The mistrial was declared by Judge Brehmer due to concerns that some jurors may have been exposed to information beyond what was presented in the trial.

Sentencing for Vanessa Wolfe is currently scheduled for December 17, in Department 4, where she faces a sentence of up to 25 years to life.

A new trial date is set for Eddie Leyva on January 6, 2020.

The District Attorney's Office intends to go forward on the re-trial of Eddie Leyva at the earliest opportunity.

Vanessa Wolfe:

