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## MEDIA ADVISORY

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approved by: Joseph Kinzel

Re: Juan Montano/Jose Montano/Giovanni Jasso: Murder convictions: BF 169286 ABC

On March 29, 2019, a Kern County Jury found defendants Juan Montano, Jose Montano, and Giovanni Jasso all guilty of premeditated first-degree murder with special circumstances for lying in wait, in addition to gang and firearms related charges.

On July 21, 2017 the Kern County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to Paradise Road in Lamont for a report of shots fired. Upon arrival Deputies located 17 year-old victim Abraham Rubio, who had suffered three gunshot wounds; two to his torso and one to his leg. Rubio died from his wounds within the hour. Detectives identified Juan Montano, Jose Montano, and Giovanni Jasso as involved in the shooting. All three defendants are known members of the Varrio Bakers criminal street gang.

Investigation revealed that after an initial verbal argument with the victim, Jose Montano called his brother, Juan Montano, as well as additional gang members and together they sought out the victim. Unable to locate the victim, the men laid in wait for the victim to return to the area of his home. When the victim arrived, the three men ambushed Rubio, and Juan Montano fired the three fatal shots that killed Abraham Rubio.

The three defendants were arrested within three weeks of the crime after investigation by the Kern County Sheriff's Department. DDA Cole McKnight tried the case for the District Attorney's Homicide Unit.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>, where each defendant faces an expected sentence of life without the possibility of parole.