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## PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: DDA Cole Sherman (661) 868-2350 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Approved by JAK Press Release # 22-26

Re: Trial Conviction for First Degree Murder: Anthony Daniel: Kern County Superior Court Case Number BF184018A

Bakersfield – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a jury verdict in a significant homicide trial today. On April 19, 2022, a Kern County jury found defendant Anthony Daniel guilty of First-Degree murder of victim Emmanuel Arechiga. The jury also found Daniel guilty of discharging a firearm causing death, robbery, shooting at an occupied motor vehicle, and assault with a semiautomatic firearm, in a December 2020 crime of murder during the commission of a robbery. The case was prosecuted by DDA Cole Sherman.

On the morning of December 31, 2020, eighteen-year-old victim, Emmanuel "Manny" Arechiga drove to an apartment complex to meet with a Daniel and Daniel's juvenile accomplice. The purpose of the meeting, previously arranged via snapchat, was Manny's attempt to purchase a firearm. When Manny and his girlfriend arrived in his vehicle, he was directed to an alleyway where Daniel and the juvenile robbed him at gunpoint. Manny, who was still in the driver's seat of his vehicle, raised up his hands and said, "don't shoot," As he did this, Manny's vehicle rolled forward. Daniel then fired a shot that passed through the rear driver's-side passenger window before striking Manny directly in his back. Manny's wallet remained on his lap after he was shot, and Daniel and the juvenile took the wallet, completing the robbery. Manny's girlfriend then climbed on top of his body and drove them to a nearby park and called 9-1-1. Police and medical personnel responded to the park but were unable to revive Manny, who died at the scene. Investigation by the Bakersfield Police Department yielded eyewitness information and extensive social media evidence tying Daniel to the crime.

On April 20, 2022, the jury concluded a bifurcated portion of the trial in which it found multiple alleged circumstances in aggravation true, including that the crime involved great violence or other acts disclosing a high degree of cruelty, viciousness, or callousness.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction, stating; "An attempt by a young-adult to purchase a firearm on the streets is unwise, but that decision is entirely undeserving of the violence that befell the young man in this case. Daniel took advantage of an 18 year-old man by luring him to a position of vulnerability, holding him up at gunpoint to rob him, then shot him in the back, ultimately killing him. Such violence demands serious penalties."

Daniel faces a sentence of up to 69 years to life in prison for the convictions. Sentencing is scheduled for June 15, 2022, in Department 6 before the Honorable John R. Brownlee.

## **Anthony Daniel:**

