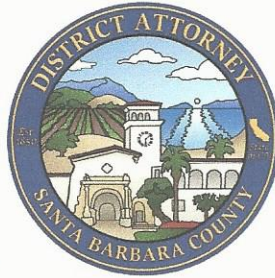


OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
**JOYCE E. DUDLEY**  
District Attorney



DA 04-299

RELEASE NUMBER

April 7, 2015

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Ann Bramsen, Sr. Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 346-7540

\*\*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

April 7, 2015

**Re: *People v. David Murillo Maldonado, Jason Michael Castillo, Reyes Gonzales, Jr., Santos Manuel Saucedo, and Ramon David Maldonado; Case No. 1434089***

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that a jury in Santa Maria found David Murillo Maldonado, 57; Jason Michael Castillo, 31; Reyes Gonzales, Jr., 44; Santos Manuel Saucedo, 35; and Ramon David Maldonado, 39, all guilty of the first degree murder of Anthony Ibarra and the special circumstance of committing the murder during the commission of a kidnapping. The jury also found true the special circumstance of murder with the infliction of torture as to Ramon Maldonado. They are all facing life without the possibility of parole and will be sentenced on May 22, 2015.

The jury could not reach a verdict on Anthony Jesus Solis, 30. At the end of today's proceedings Mr. Solis entered a plea to kidnapping and admitted a gang allegation. He will return for sentencing on July 31, 2015, when he will receive 9 years in State Prison.

On March 17, 2013, Anthony Ibarra was lured to a house in Santa Maria, where he was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered. The crime was reported to the Santa Maria Police Department on the afternoon of March 18, 2013. Officers immediately searched the house, where they located numerous signs that a violent crime had occurred, but they did not find anyone in the home. Anthony Ibarra's body was found in the cargo area of a U-Haul truck in Orcutt on March 19, 2015, by a Detective with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. Eleven arrests were made in connection with the murder of Anthony Ibarra.

In May of 2013, the Criminal Grand Jury indicted Ramon Maldonado, David Maldonado, Jason Castillo, Reyes Gonzales, Anthony Solis, Santos Saucedo, and five others for murder, witness intimidation, and accessory after the fact with gang allegations. All but six of the defendants pled to appropriate charges before this trial began. The Santa Maria Police Department was the lead agency, with assistance from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. The District Attorney commends the agencies for their outstanding work on this monumental investigation.

District Attorney Joyce Dudley says, "This investigation and prosecution shows that the District Attorney's Office and Law Enforcement will not tolerate gang violence in our community. Our office is committed to seeking both justice for crime victims and a just punishment for perpetrators. Thanks to the tireless efforts and commitment to public safety by our Law Enforcement partners and Senior Deputy District Attorney Ann Bramsen, these violent individuals will never be able to harm another person in any community again."

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