

OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 08-186

RELEASE NUMBER

August 20, 2013

RELEASE DATE

Joyce E. Dudley

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stephen Foley, Senior Deputy District Attorney

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******* PRESS RELEASE *******

District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced that today, August 20, 2013, Lorenzo Padilla, age 28, pled guilty to committing an attempted murder on a custodial officer. He also admitted that he committed the attempted murder for the benefit of a criminal street gang and that he did so with the intent of inflicting great bodily injury upon the officer.

The defendant is currently serving a sentence of 59 years to life for three prior attempted murder convictions. Today, the defendant was immediately sentenced to an additional 22 years in state prison. His resulting life sentence is now 81 years to life.

This attack took place on October 13, 2011, at the Santa Maria Court in a jail holding facility. Mr. Padilla committed the attempted murder on a custodial officer during the pendency of his criminal jury trial. He was convicted of those charges. Mr. Padilla used a jail-made shank to attack the officer, who was from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

District Attorney Dudley stated, "This case illustrates the dangers of working with violent gang members in our jail and holding facilities. The custody officers must maintain constant vigilance for their own safety and the safety of others. We acknowledge and appreciate the dedication of the officers to protect those of us inside and outside our jail."

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