330 West Broadway San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 531-4040 SanDiegoDA.com



January 31, 2025 For Immediate Release Contact: <u>Steve Walker</u> (619) 531-3890 <u>Tanya Sierra</u> (619) 531-3315 *En Español* <u>Barbara Medina</u> (619) 531-3305

Man Who Went on Shooting Spree Killing One Person Sentenced to Prison

Lemon Grove Man Shot at Seven People in Less than Two Hours

San Diego County District Attorney <u>Summer Stephan</u> announced today that a 24-year-old man, who killed one person and injured three others in January 2023 after going on a three-location shooting spree, has been sentenced to prison.

Jaime E. Gonzalez, III, has been sentenced to 86-years to life in prison. A jury found him guilty in December of five counts of premeditated attempted murder and one count of first-degree murder. For the murder he was sentenced to 51 years to life and for the attempted murders he was sentenced to seven years to life for each of the five victims.

"This defendant terrorized the community by driving to different locations to commit shootings on strangers," DA Stephan said. "He has been held to account for the cruel and cowardly murder of Raul Rojas Valdez who was shot and stabbed by the defendant, along with the harm he inflicted on other innocent victims including three minors. We hope his conviction and sentence brings a measure of justice to the victim's family and the community."

Gonzalez opened fire on seven separate victims during a shooting spree that took place on the night of Jan. 27, 2023, over the course of 90 minutes. He terrorized victims in Spring Valley, an Encanto trolley station and Bay Terraces. His crime spree resulted in the death of one man and the injury of three other victims, who were shot. When Gonzalez was apprehended, investigators found a ghost gun inside his car, ammunition in the center console and a knife with the victim's blood on Gonzalez's waistband.

Gonzalez, who donned gang tattoos, appeared to be targeting victims with perceived rival gang associations.

Deputy District Attorney Melissa Mack prosecuted this case.

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About the San Diego County District Attorney's Office

The San Diego County DA's Office prosecutes all felony crimes in the county and misdemeanor crimes committed outside the City of San Diego. The office files about 40,000 criminal cases a year and balances prosecution with numerous crime prevention programs. District Attorney Summer Stephan leads the office of more than 1,000 dedicated employees who pursue fair and equal justice, and support victims daily across San Diego County.

