

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

ANTIOCH MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR MURDER OF CHUALAR TEENAGER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2016

**CONTACT: Lindsey O'Shea or Matthew L'Heureux, Deputy District Attorneys
(831) 755-5251 or (831) 755-5267**

Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Marques Adrian Gaines, age 35, a resident of Antioch, was sentenced to serve 176 years to life in prison for the premeditated murder of Gabriel Rodriguez the attempted premeditated murder of Rafael Vasquez, both residents of Chualar and aged 18 and 20, respectively.

On March 31, 2016, a jury convicted Gaines of the slaying of Rodriguez and the attempted murder of his friend Vasquez. The jury also found that Gaines was guilty of being a felon of possession of a firearm at the time of the murder.

Gaines' convictions stem from the actions he took just before midnight on June 9, 2014. That night, Vasquez and Rodriguez had been test firing a handgun in the open agricultural fields behind Vasquez's home in Chualar. Three to five minutes after they finished, while walking home on a dirt road, Gaines shot at them from the back porch of Vasquez's next-door neighbor. Gaines shot Rodriguez and Vasquez from behind, as they were walking away from him.

The evidence at trial showed that Gaines had been upset with Vasquez for not helping him retaliate against a mutual acquaintance that had beat up Gaines when Gaines was dealing drugs in Chinatown. In the months leading up to the shooting, Gaines made threats towards Vasquez and his friends, specifically mentioning the Magnum Research Baby Desert Eagle firearm he would later use to shoot Vasquez and to end Rodriguez's life.

Following the shooting of Vasquez and Rodriguez, Gaines hid his firearm in a toilet tank and had his ex-girlfriend drive him and their baby to the city of Antioch. Gaines stopped to purchase a cigar at the 7-11 in Toro Park on his way out of town. Once in Antioch, Gaines told his ex-girlfriend to lie about where he had been that night.

This case was investigated by District Attorney Investigator Jackie Meroney, Monterey County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Bryan Hoskins, and Sheriff's Detectives Bret Speirs, Matthew Davis, Rick Jorgensen, Bryan Clester, Kim Smith, and Terrence Rahiri.