

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS TO LIFE FOR MURDERING HIS PARENTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 2017

CONTACT: Lindsey K. O'Shea

Deputy District Attorney

(831) 755-5251

Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Ellin Escamilla age 26, a resident of Salinas, was sentenced to serve 30 years-to-life in prison for the murder of his mother, Amalia Escamilla, age 65, and his father, Richard Escamilla, age 76.

Amalia and Richard Escamilla's bodies were discovered by a family member on the afternoon of November 15, 2016. The couple was unrecognizable due to the extent of their injuries. An autopsy revealed that Amalia and Richard Escamilla had died due to multiple blunt force trauma. Neighbors of the couple were unable to provide the police with any information about the incident. However, members of the family reported that the couple's son, Ellin Escamilla, had grown increasingly paranoid due to methamphetamine abuse.

The day following the murder, Ellin Escamilla was spotted in the City of El Centro, having driven over 500 miles away from the scene of his crime in his mother's car. Ellin asked a man he came across to look at the KSBW website to determine whether he was "wanted." The man noticed that Ellin's hands were badly cut to the point that the flesh was exposed and looked like "hamburger meat."

On January 3, 2017, U.S. Marshalls were able to pinpoint Ellin's location in Southern California and he was arrested. Ellin admitted to officers that his methamphetamine and alcohol use had created problems with his family and that he had argued with his Richard and Amalia Escamilla on the night of November 15, 2016.

On October 11, 2017, Ellin Escamilla pled guilty to two counts of murder.

Today, Judge Pamela L. Butler sentenced Ellin to serve 30 years to life in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the murders of Amalia and Richard Escamilla.

This case was investigated by Sergeant Stephen Craig and Sergeant Cameron Murphy of the Salinas Police Department.