

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **MOSS LANDING MAN SENTENCED TO 50 YEARS TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR FIRST DEGREE MURDER AND EXHIBITING GUN AT OFFICERS**

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on June 15 Monterey County Superior Court Judge Pamela L. Butler sentenced Jose De Jesus Estrada, age 40, a resident of Moss Landing, to a term of 50 years-to-life, and a consecutive sentence of 16 months in state prison.

On May 7, 2018, a jury found Estrada guilty of first degree murder of Alejandro (Adolfo) Reyes, and exhibiting a firearm in the presence of officers. The jury also determined that Estrada personally discharged a firearm causing death.

Estrada lived at residence on Trafton Road in Moss Landing since 2004. He worked as the property manager and helped maintain the property. Over time, Estrada stopped fulfilling his duties as the property manager. In February 2017, Estrada introduced the victim, Alejandro Reyes, to the property manager, and allowed Reyes to stay on the property. Reyes cleaned up the property and assumed Estrada's property manager duties. Estrada became enraged that Reyes was taking over his duties and was seen yelling at him just three days before the murder. Estrada was upset and he left the property on February 13, 2018.

On February 15, 2017, at around 8 a.m., Estrada came back to the property. He ambushed Reyes with a large ceramic tile and a .22 caliber gun. Estrada fired one shot directly into Reyes' upper chest, penetrating his trachea, lung, and aorta. Estrada also bludgeoned him with the large tile on the back of his head, face, and chest causing multiple rib fractures, a fractured sternum, a broken cheek bone, a neck fracture, and multiple other injuries caused by blunt force trauma. The property manager and another civilian witness observed Estrada on the property and that he was covered in blood. The blood on Estrada's face was tested and it was a positive match for Alejandro Reyes.

After deputies from the Monterey County Sheriff's Office arrived on scene, Estrada refused to exit the residence for an hour. At one point, Estrada exited, holding a large firearm, in the presence of many deputies.

The case was investigated by Detective Speirs and many other deputies from the Monterey County Sheriff's Office Robbery and Homicide Division.