



JEANNINE M. PACIONI  
District Attorney

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **SEASIDE WOMAN TO RECEIVE LIFE WITHOUT PAROLE FOR MURDER BY TORTURE OF DEPENDENT ADULT**

*People v. Corrie Denise Arriaga, 18CR004863*

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Corrie Denise Arriaga, age 44, will be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole following her guilty plea to the first-degree murder of Courtney Ann Turney, age 33, a dependent adult originally from Oklahoma. As part of her plea, Arriaga admitted a special circumstance allegation that the murder was intentional and involved the infliction of torture.

Turney, who attended special education classes following complications during her birth, moved to Monterey County from Oklahoma in 2008. That year, Turney began living with Arriaga in an apartment in Seaside. The investigation revealed that Arriaga began to physically abuse Turney, imprisoned her in the apartment, starved her, and forced her to perform physical labor against her will. Arriaga also embezzled significant amounts of money that Turney received from the Comanche Nation. The investigation demonstrated that Turney was imprisoned in Arriaga's apartment up until her death on August 4, 2017.

Turney's body was discovered on August 5, 2017. Although Turney weighed approximately 230 pounds when she arrived in Monterey County in 2008, she weighed only 54 pounds at the time of her autopsy. The examination revealed that Turney had a fractured skull, both recent and healed rib fractures, pressure ulcers, and bruising and swelling consistent with blunt-force trauma.

Arriaga was arrested on May 18, 2018. The case was investigated by Detective Kevin Miller, Detective Matthew Hoffman, Sergeant Jorge Enriquez and Officer Jonathan Moore of the Seaside Police Department, Investigators Oliver Minnig and Jackie Meroney of the Monterey County

District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation, and Detective Randal Dyck of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

Arriaga's boyfriend, 30-year-old Manuel Jesus Lopez Jarquin of Seaside, has also been charged with torture, abuse of a dependent adult, theft from a dependent adult, and accessory after the fact to Turney's murder. His case is pending.

As defined by California law, a dependent adult is any person who is between the ages of 18 and 64, who has physical or mental limitations which restrict his or her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his or her rights, including, but not limited to, persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age.

Judge Andrew G. Liu will formally sentence Arriaga on December 13, 2019.

