## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY District Attorney



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November 5, 2018

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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## \* \* \* \* \* P R E S S R E L E A S E \* \* \* \* \*

Re: People v. Eutimio Oswaldo Aispuro; Case No. 1424707

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that twenty-six year old Eutimio Oswaldo Aispuro was sentenced to 16 years to life in state prison today by the Honorable Judge Michael Carrozzo. Defendant Aispuro pled guilty to second degree murder and admitted the special allegation of personal use of a deadly weapon on October 4, 2018. Santa Barbara Police Department investigators found thirty-six year old Samuel Bautista Justo's body on the floor of his apartment on September 20, 2010. He had over 50 stab wounds; two stab wounds to his neck were lethal wounds. DNA removed from the victim's fingernails was later determined to be a match with the DNA of defendant Eutimio Aispuro. Authorities determined defendant Aispuro fled Santa Barbara shortly after the murder and traveled to Mexico where Aispuro lived for six years. On June 7, 2016, the defendant was arrested by Customs and Border Protection authorities near Lukeville, Arizona. He initially provided a false name to authorities but his true identity was learned through a fingerprint check. Customs officials then determined he had a warrant for his arrest for murder. The defendant was interviewed by Santa Barbara Police Department investigators in Arizona and confessed to killing the victim after a sexual encounter between the two. The defendant admitted he destroyed evidence and stole items from the victim's apartment after the murder and fled to Mexico because of the stabbing.

District Attorney Joyce Dudley stated, "This murderer was eventually apprehended due to the relentless investigation conducted by the Santa Barbara Police Department, specifically Detective Mike Claytor and Sergeant David Henderson. This defendant was successfully prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney Kim Siegel who described this murder as cold, calculated and particularly brutal."

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