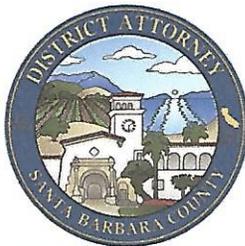


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 04-404

RELEASE NUMBER

April 21, 2017

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY JOYCE E. DUDLEY, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Jennifer Karapetian, Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT (805) 346-7523

***** PRESS RELEASE *****

Re: People v. Jorge Tovar Fernandez, Case No. 17CR03720

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Jorge Tovar Fernandez, age 26, was charged with Murder, in violation of Penal Code section 187. It is alleged that the defendant murdered his ex-girlfriend, Elyse Marie Erwin, on April 16, 2017, in Orcutt, California. Ms. Erwin was 28 years old.

It is further alleged that the defendant intentionally killed Ms. Erwin while lying in wait, within the meaning of Penal Code section 190.2(a)(15), and that the defendant personally and intentionally discharged a firearm within the meaning of Penal Code sections 12022.53(d), and 12022.5(a)(1).

The charges were filed this morning. The defendant appeared in custody for arraignment in Department 9 of the Santa Maria Superior Court. The arraignment was continued to May 12, 2017, in Department 9, at 8:30 am. The defendant is being held without bail.

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