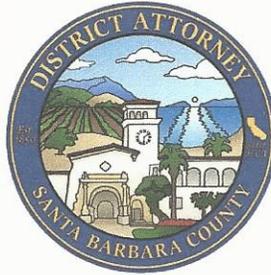


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 10-328

RELEASE NUMBER

October 30, 2015

RELEASE DATE

APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Arnis Tolks, Sr. Deputy District Attorney

CONTACT PERSON (805) 568-2428

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

October 30, 2015

Re: *People v. Manuel Salmeron Manzanares*; Case No. 1476313

The Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office announced today that Manuel Salmeron Manzanares pled guilty to murder in the 2nd degree and admitted the special allegation of using a deadly weapon in the murder of Linda Archer. Ms. Archer, homeless at the time, was found deceased not far from her campsite near the southbound off-ramp at Castillo Street on August 16, 1997.

Although the investigation continued, the case was later reclassified as a "Cold Case Homicide."

In 2013 the foreign DNA profile from the deceased's fingernails was submitted to the Combined DNA Index System ("CODIS"). The profile matched that of Manzanares, an individual who was known by law enforcement to have been in the Santa Barbara area at the time of the murder.

In June of 2014, Santa Barbara Police Detectives learned that Manzanares was incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary at Lompoc, California, with a scheduled release date in June of 2015. Detectives soon interviewed Manzanares at the penitentiary. During this interview Manzanares ultimately confessed to the murder of Ms. Archer. The District Attorney's Office subsequently charged Manzanares with murder. He was brought to the Santa Barbara County Jail in June of 2015.

District Attorney Dudley stated, "As a result of the exemplary investigative work on the part of the Santa Barbara Police Department, justice has finally been served for the heinous murder of Linda Archer. It is my hope that this will bring some closure to Ms. Archer's family after so many years of suffering."

The Manzanares sentencing will take place in Department 10 of the Santa Barbara Superior Court on December 1, 2015.

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