

OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA  
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\*\*\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*

November 12, 2014

**Re: *The People of the State of California v. Raymond Daniel Macias; Case No. 1434130***

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce E. Dudley announced today that Raymond Daniel Macias was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, plus a determinate term of 18 years, which means that Mr. Macias will spend the rest of his life in prison. The juries convicted him of a few felony counts including kidnapping for extortion with the special allegations of causing substantial injury and use of a firearm, torture, and sale of methamphetamine. The juries also found that Macias committed these crimes for the benefit, in association with, or at the direction of a criminal street gang.

Macias was a leader of the Sureno gangs in Santa Barbara County for several years and was working directly for a prominent and violent prison gang.

On January 3, 2013, several gang members lured John Doe to a garage in Lompoc. While in the garage, gang member Luis Alfredo Almanza struck John Doe in the arm with a hatchet. Other gang members then tied up John Doe, duct taped his mouth, and placed him on top of a milk crate, over the top of tarps which covered the floor and walls. A couple of hours later Macias arrived and then proceeded to extort the prison gang's tax and drug money owed by John Doe.

In June of 2013, the Criminal Grand Jury indicted Macias, Almanza, and ten other gang members for a variety of charges. In June of 2014, a jury convicted Macias of torture with the special allegations of principle use of a firearm and the criminal street gang allegation plus sale of methamphetamine with the criminal street gang allegation, but hung on the count of kidnapping for extortion. Also in June the jury convicted Almanza of kidnapping for extortion, with the special allegation of causing substantial injury, and torture with the special allegations of principal use of a firearm, personal use of a deadly weapon, and the criminal street gang allegation. Almanza was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole, and an additional 11 years. In September 2014, a second jury convicted Macias of kidnapping for extortion with use of a firearm, causing substantial injury, and for the benefit of a criminal street gang.

District Attorney Dudley says, "As a result of this investigation by multiple law enforcement agencies and subsequent successful prosecutions, a dangerous gang member will spend the rest of his life in prison, and a strong message is sent to Sureno gangs in California that Santa Barbara County will vigorously prosecute gang-related crimes."

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