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District Attorney

PRESS RELEASE

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GREENFIELD MAN SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR RAPING WOMAN IN HER HOME IN 2009

People v. Juan Antonio Garcia Jimenez, Case No. 23CR005837

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that on July 16, 2026, Judge Jennifer J. O’Keefe sentenced Juan Antonio Garcia Jimenez, age 42 of Greenfield, to 25 years to life in prison. In 2009, he forcibly raped a Salinas woman in her home, a case that was unsolved until a DNA match implicated him in 2023. Jimenez pled guilty and admitted a special allegation that he committed the rape during the commission of a first- degree burglary.

On December 1, 2009, Salinas Police officers were dispatched to Jane Doe’s residence because she reported someone was inside and she needed help. When officers spoke to Jane Doe, she told them she was decorating for Christmas with her 18-month-old son when Jimenez burst into her living room. Jane Doe had never seen Jimenez before. Jimenez told Jane Doe that if she didn’t do what he wanted, he would kill her son. Jimenez forced her into a bedroom and began striking her in the face. He then forced her to orally copulate him. He then strangled and raped Jane Doe, but she was eventually able to fight him off and get him to stop. Jimenez fled the scene.

Jane Doe participated in a sexual assault examination at the hospital, where DNA samples were taken from various parts of her body. These samples were tested by the Department of Justice and entered into CODIS. CODIS is a DNA database used by law enforcement to help identify suspects, solve crimes and link related criminal investigations. In 2023, a CODIS hit identified Jimenez as the suspect in this case.

In July 2020, District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni created the District Attorney’s Office Cold Case Task Force, which represents the largest and most comprehensive county-wide effort to investigate, solve and prosecute cold-case homicides and other violent crimes in Monterey County. Investigators with the Cold Case Task Force assisted with the renewed investigation.

In January 2022, the District Attorney's Office Cold Case Task Force received a \$535,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant, titled "FY 2021 Prosecuting Cold Cases Using DNA," provides funding to support forensic testing and investigative activities in the prosecution of cold cases where DNA from a suspect has been identified. Funding from the U.S. Department of Justice grant enabled the Cold Case Task Force to seek justice in this case.

Jane Doe was assisted by the District Attorney's Office Victim/Witness Program Manager Alma Sanchez and Victim Advocate Mayra Sandoval.