



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
David P. Harris

Chief Deputies
Marlisa Ferreira
Jeffrey M. Laugero
Wendell Emerson
Michael D. Houston
Mark Zahner

Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: June 4, 2021
Re: Darrell Reed Hamilton
Murder Conviction Jury Trial

For More Information Contact:

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-6909

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Darrell Reed Hamilton, age 50, of Modesto has been convicted of murder after a three-week jury trial in Stanislaus County Superior Court. Deputy District Attorney Kirk Brennan prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

In the early morning hours of November 25, 2019, Darrell Hamilton beat victim Randy Cisneros in the face with a large rock and stabbed him in the chest and back of the neck. Cisneros's body was found in an alley off the 2000 block of Standiford Avenue in Modesto later that morning. A large bloody rock was found nearby on the Hetch Hetchy recreation trail.

Modesto Police detectives recovered surveillance video that showed Hamilton going to and from the same alley at least seven times that morning. Crime lab testing of the blood on the rock identified DNA from the victim and Hamilton. A knife recovered from Hamilton over a month after the killing could not be determined to be the same one used in the crime.

Hamilton was arrested and charged with murder along with an enhancement for using a deadly weapon (rock). He chose to represent himself during the case and was provided assistance from a local attorney as advisory counsel. On May 6, 2021 after a three-week trial, a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury convicted Hamilton of murder and the enhancement for using a deadly weapon.

Hamilton is currently in jail custody awaiting sentencing on June 25, 2021, before Judge Ricardo Cordova in Department 8 at 8:30 a.m. He faces a potential prison sentence of 16 years to life.

###

Office: 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Mailing: PO BOX 442 Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027 www.stanislaus-da.org



<https://www.facebook.com/StanislausDistrictAttorney/>