



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 22, 2022
Re: Reyes Ruvalcaba
Attempted Murder conviction from 2005 shooting

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Reyes Ruvalcaba, age 56, was convicted on November 10, 2022 of attempted murder with an enhancement for inflicting great bodily injury. Deputy District Attorney Fawn Smolak prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On April 10, 2005 at approximately 8:30 p.m., Ruvalcaba's estranged wife arrived at an apartment complex on Standiford to pick up their four children. After she parked her car and walked across the parking lot, Ruvalcaba came up to her and shot her three times, twice in the abdomen and once in the back of the head. He then fled the scene. The victim was transported to the hospital in critical condition and immediately underwent emergency surgery before being placed in the Neurological Intensive Care Unit. She ultimately survived, but the bullet in the back of her head could not be removed.

Just prior to the shooting, Ruvalcaba had telephoned his son and told him, "I do what I have to do and then I'm going to leave."

A criminal complaint was filed on April 13, 2005 in Stanislaus County Superior Court charging Ruvalcaba with premeditated attempted murder along with enhancements for using a firearm and inflicting great bodily injury. He was also charged with felony domestic violence.

Modesto Police detectives were able to confirm that Ruvalcaba had fled to Mexico. He stayed there until July 29, 2020 when he was arrested by Calexico Police as he tried to cross the border back into California. On August 4, 2020, he was returned to Stanislaus County for prosecution.

As the case proceeded to jury trial the victim could not be located. On November 10th, 2022, Ruvalcaba pled no contest before Judge McFadden to Attempted Murder and admitted the enhancement for inflicting great bodily injury. The remaining charges were dismissed in return for the plea. After accepting his plea and finding him guilty, Judge McFadden sentenced Ruvalcaba to serve 14 years in state prison.

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