



# Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Date: March 8, 2022  
Re: Jose Alonso Gutierrez, Jr., and  
Bailey Martin Sanchez  
Murder and Voluntary Manslaughter Convictions

### For More Information Contact:

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jose Alonso Gutierrez, Jr., age 22, of Turlock was convicted on March 7, 2022 of murder in the 2018 death of Jack Keener. Bailey Martin Sanchez, age 24, of Turlock was convicted on March 7, 2022 of voluntary manslaughter and auto theft. Deputy District Attorney Michael Scheid prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On April 15, 2018, in the early morning hours, the defendants were in a verbal altercation with Jack Keener and another individual in downtown Turlock. The argument turned into a fist fight that continued into a nearby field where Sanchez beat Keener to the ground. Gutierrez then drove his car over Keener multiple times, causing Keener's death. According to surveillance video, Gutierrez drove both he and Sanchez away from the scene but returned after going around the block so that Sanchez could steal Keener's car which had been parked across the street.

During a hearing held on March 7, 2022 before Judge Shawn Bessey, Gutierrez pled guilty to murder. Sanchez pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and auto theft. Members of the victim's family testified about how Keener's killing impacted them. Upon conclusion of the hearing, Judge Bessey sentenced Gutierrez to serve 15 years to life in state prison. Sanchez was sentenced to serve six years for the voluntary manslaughter charge plus an additional eight months for the auto theft.

Both defendants remain in the Stanislaus County jail awaiting transfer to the California Department of Corrections.

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