



# Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Date: May 18, 2023  
Re: Jesus Perez  
Prison Conviction

### For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Jesus Perez, age 25, of Oakdale has been convicted of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated in the 2021 deaths of Sarah and George Pacheco. Deputy District Attorney Ahnna Reicks prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On the evening of May 18, 2021, Jesus Perez was driving approximately 20 miles per hour over the speed limit on Orange Blossom Road when his black 2016 Chevrolet Silverado crossed over the double yellow lines into oncoming traffic and crashed into a 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe head-on. The driver of the Tahoe, George Pacheco, was pronounced dead at the scene. Pacheco's wife, Sarah, was transported to the hospital with life threatening injuries and died twelve days later. Perez's two passengers, Michael Arkow and Bradford Aquino also sustained injuries.

When contacted by officers, Perez showed obvious signs and symptoms of intoxication. He was combative and refused any chemical testing. A forcible blood draw pursuant to a search warrant showed Perez's blood alcohol content to be .089% approximately three and a half hours after the collision. A Department of Justice Senior Criminalist determined that Perez's blood alcohol content would have been approximately .156% at the time of the collision, almost twice the legal limit.

On May 12, 2023, just before going to jury trial, Perez pled no contest before Judge Carrie Stephens to two counts of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and admitted enhancements for refusing to take a chemical test and having a high blood alcohol content of .15% or higher, driving under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol content over .08% causing injury to Michael Arkow and admitted enhancements for causing injuries to Bradford Aquino.

Victim impact statements and sentencing are set for June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in Department 4. At that hearing Perez, who had no prior criminal record, is expected to be sentenced pursuant to a plea agreement to a term of seven years in state prison.

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