



Riverside County District Attorney

# CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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For Immediate Release  
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## ARRAIGNMENT CONTINUED IN CASE OF HEMET MAN CHARGED WITH MURDERING HIS WIFE AND HIS 5-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER

**CORRECTION: The previous news release on this case stated the defendant and victim were estranged. They were not. The murder victim was his wife.**

MURRIETA – Today, Nov. 14, 2013, the arraignment was continued to next month for a man charged with two counts of murder in connection with the deaths of his wife and his 5-year-old daughter last week.

Johnny Lopez, DOB: 12-31-79, of Hemet is now scheduled to be arraigned on six felony counts at 8:30 a.m. on Dec. 6, 2013, in Dept. S201 at the Southwest Justice Center, 30755 Auld Road, Murrieta. The case number is SWF1303389.

He has been charged with two counts of murder and the Riverside County District Attorney's Office also has filed a special circumstance allegation of multiple murders against Lopez. The special circumstance allegation makes Lopez eligible for the death penalty. A decision whether to seek the death penalty will be made at a later date by District Attorney Paul Zellerbach. With the special circumstance allegation, Lopez faces a minimum of life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Lopez is charged with the murders of Joanna Angel Barrientos Lopez, 36, and 5-year-old Mia Lopez. Mia was the step-daughter of Joanna Lopez. The two murder victims were found shot to death in their home on Girard Street in Hemet the evening of Nov. 9, 2013. There is also an allegation Lopez personally used a firearm.

Lopez is also charged with the attempted murder of a former girlfriend who was found stabbed in her home on Sunset Lane in Hemet about an hour before the bodies of the two murder victims were located. Her condition is currently listed as stable at a local hospital. That victim is not being identified. Lopez is also charged with rape and burglary as well as allegations he used a knife, an axe, and a cord in that attack.

Count six charges that Lopez was a felon in possession of a firearm.