



Riverside County District Attorney

# CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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## JUDGE ORDERS MAN TO STAND TRIAL FOR THE 2010 MURDER OF NORMA LOPEZ

RIVERSIDE – Today, June 10, 2013, a Riverside County Superior Court judge ordered a man to stand trial for the 2010 murder of 17-year-old Norma Lopez in Moreno Valley.

Jesse Perez Torres, DOB: 5-10-76, of Long Beach, has been charged with one count of murder with a special circumstance allegation of kidnapping. That special circumstance allegation makes Torres eligible for the death penalty. A decision whether or not to seek death in this case will be made at a later date by District Attorney Paul Zellerbach.

Torres now is scheduled to appear for an information arraignment on June 24, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 63 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside.

Norma Lopez was walking from summer classes at Valley View High School in Moreno Valley on July 15, 2010, when she was abducted. Her body was found in a nearby field five days later.

At the time of the kidnap and murder, Torres lived in a home on a Moreno Valley street which the teen girl had walked past the same morning she was abducted. Torres owned an SUV at the time which matched the description of a vehicle witnesses described seeing in the area of the abduction. Torres moved from Moreno Valley to Long Beach in about August 2010. He was arrested in October 2011 and is being held without bail.

The case, RIF1105550, is being prosecuted by Chief Deputy District Attorney Michael Soccio who supervises the DA's Major Crimes Unit.