



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE
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PERRIS MAN ORDERED TO STAND TRIAL FOR THREE RANDOM MURDERS

MURRIETA – Today, June 19, 2015, a Riverside County Superior Court judge ruled that a Perris man charged by the District Attorney's Office with three murders must stand trial for those crimes.

David Rey Contreras, DOB: 3-16-88, is charged with the December 2012 murder of a man whose body was found in a Perris field and the February 2013 murders of a woman and her daughter in Nuevo. Based on the evidence, it is believed that all three murders were random and that Contreras had no connection to any of the victims.

At the conclusion of a preliminary hearing held today, Judge John Monterosso found sufficient evidence for Contreras to stand trial on all counts and ordered him to return for an information arraignment on July 24, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. S301 at the Southwest Detention Center.

Contreras is charged with three counts of murder with enhancements on all three counts that he personally used a deadly weapon – in this case a knife. There are also sentencing enhancements of multiple murders and, regarding the two murder counts involving the mother and daughter, of lying in wait. The multiple murders and lying in wait enhancements make Contreras eligible for the death penalty which District Attorney Mike Hestrin is seeking in this case.

Contreras is charged with the Dec. 29, 2012, murder of Jose Apreza, 53, of Perris. Apreza was reported missing by his wife that same day after he took his dog out for a walk early that morning and never came back home. Apreza's body was later found in a large open field in the area of Evans Road and Orange Avenue in Perris. A coroner's autopsy showed that the victim had multiple stab wounds to his body.

Contreras is also charged with the Feb. 4, 2013, murders of Maria Gonzalez, 51, and her 25-year-old daughter, Consuelo Gonzalez. The two women left their Nuevo home about 5 p.m. to go for a walk. A short time later, the Riverside County Sheriff's Department received a call of a stabbing on Central Avenue, between Ramona and Rosary avenues. Deputies found both women lying in the street. Consuelo Gonzalez was pronounced dead at the scene and Maria Gonzalez died while being transported in an ambulance to a nearby hospital. Coroner's autopsies showed both victims had multiple stab wounds to their bodies.

Subsequent investigation into the murders by the sheriff's Central Homicide Unit led homicide investigators to identify Contreras as a suspect in all three murders and ultimately to his arrest on at his home on Wilson Avenue in Perris.

The case, SWF1302049, is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Daniel DeLimon of the DA's Homicide Unit.

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