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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**JURORS FIND MAN GUILTY OF THE 2010 MURDER  
OF 17-YEAR-OLD NORMA LOPEZ IN MORENO VALLEY**

**RIVERSIDE** – Jurors today, March 13, 2019, found a man guilty of the 2010 murder of 17-year-old Norma Lopez in Moreno Valley.

Jesse Perez Torres, DOB: 5-10-76, of Long Beach was convicted of one count of first-degree murder and jurors found the special circumstance of murder during the commission of a felony, in this case kidnapping, to be true.

The trial now moves to the penalty phase during which the same jurors will hear testimony and determine if Torres should be sentenced to death or to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Penalty phase testimony will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 14.

Norma Lopez was kidnapped on July 15, 2010, as she walked from summer school at Valley View High School in Moreno Valley to a friend's house. Five days later, her body was found in a dirt field about three miles away. Defendant Jesse Perez Torres was later identified as the suspect and was charged in October 2011 by our office with Norma's murder. Torres lived in the Moreno Valley neighbor where the kidnapping happened at the time of the crime.

The case, RIF1105550, is being prosecuted by Deputy DAs Michael Kersse and Kevin Beecham.

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