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## **MAN SOUGHT IN 1993 MURDER TRACKED DOWN BY FUGITIVE TASK FORCE**

**RIVERSIDE** – More than 23 years ago, Nicholas Macias was murdered after driving up to his girlfriend's house in the Quail Valley area of Riverside County to take her out to dinner.

Now, after more than two decades on the run, the man charged in the murder has been tracked down by a multi-agency fugitive task force and is in custody in a Riverside County jail.

Roman Torales Malagon, DOB: 8-29-68, entered a not guilty plea at his arraignment Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016, and now has a felony settlement conference scheduled for Sept. 13, 2016, in Dept. 63 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside. Malagon is charged with one count of murder and an enhancement of personal use of a firearm.

On the evening of Aug. 22, 1993, the victim arrived at his girlfriend's home on Avenida Estrella and a car pulled alongside Macias' car. Witnesses told investigators that man then fired multiple gunshots, killing Macias.

Macias' girlfriend told investigators that she believed the shooter might have been her former boyfriend, Roman Malagon, who she said had been violent in the past and had threatened both her and Macias before the shooting. According to the investigation, not long after the murder the woman received a call from Malagon and she asked him why he killed Macias. Malagon reportedly admitted killing Macias.

Homicide investigators were unable to locate Malagon after the murder. In 2008, a Riverside County District Attorney's investigator was assigned the case and the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force – which includes DA's investigators – began looking for Malagon.

After an extensive investigation, during which the task force worked with Mexican authorities, Malagon was arrested on Feb. 16, 2016, in Tierra Blanca, Veracruz, Mexico by Mexican federal police who spotted him in an area near his family. Following extradition proceedings in Mexico, Malagon was ultimately extradited back to the United States. He was transported by U.S. Marshal inspectors from Mexico City to Los Angeles International Airport where he was released to members of the multi-agency fugitive task force and booked on Aug. 24, 2016, at the Robert Presley Detention Center in Riverside.

The Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force, Team 6, is made up of Riverside County DA's investigators, special agents from the California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, and U.S. Marshal inspectors. Team 6 is one of 20 teams within the PSRFTF all of which are a collaborative effort by regional law enforcement agencies to apprehend fugitives.

Malagon's case, PEF936280, is being prosecuted by Deputy DA Michael Kersse of the DA's Major Crimes Division.

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