



CRIMINAL CASE UPDATE

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GANG MEMBER SENTENCED TO LIFE WITHOUT POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE FOR MURDER IN RIVERSIDE APARTMENT COMPLEX

RIVERSIDE – Today, May 21, 2010, a gang member was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for the 2007 stabbing death of a man at a Riverside apartment complex.

Jesus Albert Castillo, DOB: 4-2-89, of Riverside was convicted in December 2009 of first-degree murder and the attempted murder of a second victim. The jury found true the enhancement that Castillo committed the murder to benefit a criminal street gang.

On Feb. 16, 2007, the murder victim, Gerard Phillips, drove with three others, including his brother-in-law and fellow victim, Joseph Faciane, to the North Point Apartments in Riverside. Faciane was confronted by two men, including Castillo, who asked him where he was from, a phrase commonly used by gang members to see if someone belongs to a gang. Faciane replied he did not “gang bang,” meaning he claims no gang membership. Castillo then shouted a gang reference and lunged toward Faciane as if he was going to hit him. Faciane hit Castillo and the two men began to fight.

A second defendant with Castillo, Raul Eduardo Delcid, also jumped into the fight. During the fight, Phillips and Faciane were stabbed multiple times by Castillo. Phillips died and Faciane, who received about 20 staples to help repair his injuries, survived his wounds.

Co-defendant Delcid, DOB: 9-7-90, of Riverside, was convicted in July 2008 of first-degree murder, attempted murder, and criminal street gang activity. He was sentenced in May 2009 to 25 years to life in prison.

The case, RIF135543, was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Jared Haringsma of the Gang Unit.

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