



Riverside County District Attorney
NEWS RELEASE

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MOTHER CONVICTED OF BEATING 21-MONTH-OLD BABY TO DEATH

INDIO, CA: Today, June 3, 2010, a Riverside County jury convicted Ana Alicia Cedillo of murder for beating her 21-month-old baby, Oscar, to death in 2007.

“We will always stand up and fight for those victims that can’t fight for themselves,” said Riverside County District Attorney Rod Pacheco. “The person who should have been protecting Baby Oscar was the person who tormented him and cut his life short.”

Cedillo, DOB: 10/24/82, put Baby Oscar to bed in her Indio home on the night of September 27, 2007, around 11 p.m. after he had been suffering for several days of fever, extreme abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting. Baby Oscar died at some point during the night and was discovered lifeless and bloody the next morning by Cedillo.

An autopsy revealed that Baby Oscar had endured multiple blunt force trauma injuries to his abdomen, including a fatally ruptured small intestine. He had multiple blunt force trauma injuries to his head, several healing rib fractures, a chipped front tooth, a missing front tooth and bruises. Cedillo had several years of prior Child Protective Services contacts before the murder. Her children were taken away from her at one point until she completed a 12-week parenting class and they were then returned to her. Cedillo initially blamed the victim for his bruises by claiming it was a result of his “falling in the bathtub.” She later recanted and admitted to hitting Baby Oscar on several occasions just days prior to his death.

The case, INF060125, was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Christopher Ross of the Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Unit.

“Baby Oscar endured more pain and torment in his short life than most people will endure in a entire lifetime,” said Ross. “The facts of this case were not easy for anyone to hear, but the jury heard them and returned the right verdict thereby making sure that this innocent child got the justice he deserved.”

Cedillo faces up to 15 years to life in prison when she is sentenced on August 6, 2010, in Dept. 2H of the Larson Justice Center.

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