



Riverside County District Attorney  
**NEWS RELEASE**

ROD PACHECO  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

John Hall  
Public Information Officer  
Contact: 951.955.8662

For Immediate Release  
July 28, 2010

### **WOMAN SOUGHT IN 2008 FATAL CRASH FOUND IN MEXICO**

RIVERSIDE – A Corona woman wanted in connection with a 2008 DUI crash that killed another driver has been found in Mexico and returned to Riverside County to face charges including murder.

Elva Diaz, DOB: 4-4-79, became a fugitive from justice when she fled the United States to Mexico after posting bail following her arrest in 2008. Diaz was located in the small, remote town of Santa Cruz De Camotlan, in the state of Nayarit, about 2 ½ hours outside of Guadalajara. Investigators with the Riverside County District Attorney's Office Fugitive Apprehension Team took custody of Diaz late Tuesday afternoon after she was flown to Los Angeles International Airport from Mexico.

Diaz was then booked at Robert Presley Detention Center in Riverside and is scheduled to be arraigned at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, July 29, 2010, in Dept. 41 at the Hall of Justice in Riverside. Diaz is charged with murder, vehicular manslaughter and driving on a suspended license.

According to the evidence in the case, on Feb. 21, 2008, Diaz was driving the wrong way -- south in the northbound lanes – on Knabe Road, north of Claystone Avenue, in Corona when her speeding vehicle hit another car head on. The driver of the other car, Rachel Elliott, died early the next morning at Inland Valley Medical Center in Wildomar.

Diaz was found to have been under the influence of alcohol at the time of the crash and was arrested. Officers investigating the crash found that Diaz was an ambulance driver/emergency medical technician and that she chose to drive even after being told not to by her boyfriend and others at a bar where she had been drinking prior to the fatal crash.

The District Attorney's Office sought and was granted an increase in Diaz's bail which is now at \$5 million. The case number is RIF149672.

The United States Marshal's Office and immigration officials in Mexico assisted in locating, apprehending and getting Diaz back to Riverside County to face charges in this crime.

###