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**March 23, 2022**

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Approved by CJZ  
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**Re: Domestic Violence Attempted Murder and Mayhem Trial Conviction: David Castillo: Kern County Superior Court Case # SF019863A**

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant domestic violence trial conviction today. On March 22, 2022, in a case presented by Deputy District Attorneys Samantha Allen and Kacie Barrier, a Kern County jury found defendant David Castillo guilty of attempted murder with the use of a deadly weapon causing great bodily injury, as well as aggravated mayhem, spousal abuse, and child endangerment.

On February 1, 2020, Castillo stabbed the estranged mother of his children numerous times in her face and arm in front of their 8-year-old child. The stabbing was motivated by jealousy, and it caused permanent injuries to the victim's face and arm. Castillo had committed previous acts of violence against women, including assaulting two other women with the use of a knife in addition to a separate case of assault on a peace officer with a deadly weapon. Castillo is alleged to have suffered two previous serious or violent felony "strike" convictions, which, if found true, would make him eligible for an elevated sentence.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the conviction: "When an offender's proven history of criminality culminates with an attempt to take the life of yet another domestic violence victim, the increasingly criminality should not be tolerated. Three-strikes laws are important to ensure that repeat offenders are not allowed to escalate their level of violence before serious consequences are imposed. Castillo has proven himself capable and willing to kill, and we will not wait for him to be successful before a serious prison sentence is considered appropriate."

A bench trial on the defendant's prior convictions will be held on March 30, 2022 before Superior Court Judge Oglesby. Castillo is anticipated to face a sentence of up to 25 years to life in prison.