



OCTOBER

COUNTY OF FRESNO

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS MONTH

LISA A. SMITTCAMP  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 18, 2016

### **CEASAR MORENO PLEADS “NO CONTEST” TO DUI MURDER FOR THANKSGIVING DAY 2010 KILLING**

Senior Deputy District Attorney Sally Moreno and Senior District Attorney Investigator Jesse Perez are pleased to announce that today, October 18, 2016, Cesar Gonzalez Moreno was convicted after pleading “no contest” to killing Eugenio Fuentes Ramirez in a Thanksgiving Day 2010 DUI collision. In criminal cases, a plea of “no contest” has the same effect as a “guilty” plea.

On Thanksgiving Day 2010, Mr. Moreno caused two separate traffic collisions as he drove on Highways 99 and 180 through the City of Fresno, eventually causing the collision that killed Eugenio Ramirez and threw Petra Hilda Silvas from their vehicle causing serious injuries. At the time of his arrest, Mr. Moreno’s blood alcohol level was measured at 0.30%, which is nearly four (4) times the legal limit.

Mr. Moreno had previously been arrested and convicted for driving under the influence in 2009. At the time of that prior conviction he was told he could be charged with murder if he continued to drink and drive, and as a result killed someone.

Today, Mr. Moreno was convicted after entering pleas of “no contest” to all of the charges against him, including:

- 1.) Murder of Eugenio Fuentes [P.C. §187(a)];
- 2.) Driving Under the Influence Causing Injury to Petra Silvas [V.C. §23153(a)]; and
- 3.) Driving with a 0.08% BAC or Higher Causing Injury to Petra Silvas [V.C. §23153(b)].

Mr. Moreno also admitted that he Inflicted Great Bodily Injury to Petra Silvas [P.C. §12022.7], that he was driving with an elevated alcohol level, and that he had previously been convicted of a Driving Under the Influence offense.

As charged and convicted, Mr. Moreno faces a maximum sentence of 21 years to life in state prison. In an agreement with the Court, the Judge indicated a sentence of nineteen years and four months (19 years, 4 months) to life when he is sentenced on December 7, 2016, in Department 72 of the Fresno Superior Court.

The Media may email [FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us](mailto:FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us) or contact Administrative Assistant Leslie Gillespie at (559) 600-4442 with questions.

[2010H38872]