



**APRIL**

**Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**COUNTY OF FRESNO**

**Lisa A. Smittcamp  
District Attorney**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 13, 2018

### **FRANK MIRELES SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR FIRST DEGREE MURDER CONVICTION**

Frank Francisco Mireles (53, of Visalia), was sentenced today to a term of Life without the Possibility of Parole for the murder of Jose Antonio Rodriguez, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office has announced.

Last month, a Fresno County Jury found Frank Mireles guilty of First Degree Murder [P.C. § 187(a)]. The jury also found true the special circumstance that the murder was committed during the commission of a residential burglary.

On July 6, 2012, the defendant bludgeoned Mr. Rodriguez to death with a hammer as he burglarized his home in Sanger. The body of Mr. Rodriguez was found that evening by his children. During the investigation, law enforcement discovered that the defendant had pawned some of the victim's property, and clothing with the victim's blood was discovered in a dumpster at the defendant's apartment complex.

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, the jury found the defendant guilty of the charge and special circumstance after deliberating for two (2) hours. Today, Judge John Vogt sentenced the defendant to a term of Life Without the Possibility of Parole in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

This case was investigated by the Sanger Police Department, and was prosecuted by Sr.DDA Noelle Pebet, with the assistance of Investigators Shari Hall, Jesse Perez, and Romeo Grajeda.

The Media may email [FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us](mailto:FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us) or contact Administrative Assistant Geri Benavides at (559) 600-4441 with questions.

\*\*\*

[2012H21770]