NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TONY LEON CONVICTED OF MURDER FOR SHOTGUN SLAYING OF FRESNO WOMAN

Tony David Leon (37, of Fresno), was found guilty yesterday after a five (5) week trial of second degree murder for the shotgun killing of 18-year-old Nicole Jones, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office has announced.

On August 1, 2012, Tony Leon fired a sawed-off shotgun into a crowd during a fight near Fresno City College. The shotgun blast killed Nicole Jones and injured Noemi Ramirez, who were both about a block away from the shooter.

Yesterday, a Fresno County jury found Mr. Leon guilty of the two felony charges of Second Degree Murder [P.C. 187] for the killing of Ms. Jones, and Assault with a Firearm [P.C. 245(a)(2)] for the shooting of Ms. Ramirez. The jury also found that Mr. Leon violated the 10-20-Life statute by firing the shotgun during the commission of the crimes. Mr. Leon was also charged with having a Strike Prior in 2005, as well as two (2) prior State Prison commitments.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney William "Billy" Terrence, with the assistance of DA Investigators Daniel Jenkins and David Medina. The case was investigated by the Fresno Police Department's Homicide Unit.

After the verdict was announced, Sr.DDA Terrence expressed his appreciation to the members of the jury for their service and diligence. The victims' family members were present for the verdict, and will be able to address the court and the defendant when he is sentenced on June 20, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., in Department 61 of the Fresno County Superior Court. Mr. Leon faces a sentence of up to seventy-eight (78) years to life in prison. However, upon reaching age 60 and after serving 25 years, Mr. Leon will be eligible for release under the Elderly Parole Program.

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

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