



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

PRESS RELEASE

4/20/17

**OROSI MAN SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON FOR STABBING
MURDER**

Today in Department 6 of the Tulare County Superior Court, Judge Gary Paden sentenced Jose Luis Mata-Martinez, age 30, of Oroshi, to 21 years to life in prison for the stabbing murder of a man and the attempted murder of a female in 2015.

On March 1, 2017, Mata-Martinez pleaded no contest to one count of second degree murder and one count of attempted murder without premeditation. Mata-Martinez also admitted the special allegation of using a deadly weapon, which was a knife.

In the late evening hours on January 31, 2015, Mata-Martinez was squatting in a trailer located on the victim's property in Cutler. Upon hearing noises inside the trailer, the victim went to inspect it when he was attacked by Mata-Martinez. Mata-Martinez stabbed the victim numerous times with an 8-inch knife. The victim's wife tried to protect her husband and stop the assault when she was also stabbed in the wrist by Mata-Martinez. A neighbor was able to contact police, who arrested Mata-Martinez at the scene.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Chelsea Wayt and investigated by the Tulare County Sheriff's Office as well as Rodney Klassen of the District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations.

*Media inquiries can be directed to the Office of the District Attorney, County of Tulare
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