



NEWS RELEASE

January 23, 2014

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Public Information

303-835-5639

Man who Ran Man Down with his SUV Sentenced to Life in Prison

Roberto Carlos Silva-Jaquez was sentenced to life in prison without parole Friday for first-degree murder in the death of Ramon Blanco, who died after he was run over by Silva-Jaquez on Nov. 23, 2012.

The Adams County District Court jury returned the verdict Thursday afternoon, convicting Silva-Jaquez of first-degree murder after deliberation (F1) and first-degree murder extreme indifference (F2). Silva-Jaquez, DOB 08/22/73, also was convicted of two counts of attempted first-degree murder (F2) of Jose Manriquez and one count of second-degree assault (F4) against Luis Manriquez. Jose and Luis Manriquez are the stepsons of Blanco.

Adams County District Court Judge John Popovich sentenced Silva-Jaquez to 48 years in prison for attempted first-degree murder to run concurrently with the life sentence. He imposed a consecutive 16-year sentence for the second-degree assault conviction.

According to testimony during the trial, which began last week, Silva-Jaquez drove to the mobile home at 2901 W. 63rd Avenue in Adams County, where Blanco lived, after Silva-Jaquez was involved in an altercation at a bar with Blanco and his Jose Manriquez.

Blanco and Jose Manriquez were standing on the porch of the mobile home when Silva-Jaquez drove his speeding Ford Bronco through the fence and into the porch and side of the mobile home. Jose Manriquez was able to jump out of the path of the Bronco, but Blanco was run over. Luis Manriquez was asleep inside the mobile home when he heard and felt the Bronco hit the residence. As he and his brother pulled Silva-Jaquez from the vehicle, Silva-Jaquez grabbed a heavy chain and hit Luis Manriquez on the head with it. Silva-Jaquez fled on foot and was later arrested.

"This was a very complicated case," said District Attorney Dave Young. "Our prosecution team did a tremendous job and I want to thank the jury for taking the time to sort out this difficult case and reach a correct and just verdict."

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