



COUNTY OF FRESNO

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District Attorney

REVISED NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 21, 2017

ALEXANDER SOTO CONVICTED OF MURDER COMMITTED DURING POLICE PURSUIT

Today, March 21, 2017, a Fresno County jury convicted Alexander Soto (40, of Fowler) of the 2013 murder of Mark Bourdase.

On February 8, 2013, Alexander Soto led officers from the California Highway Patrol and Fresno Police Department on a 16.1 mile pursuit through the City of Fresno. The pursuit ended at the intersection of Chestnut and Bullard Avenues, where the defendant struck a vehicle driven by Mark Bourdase, killing him.

At the time of this incident, Mr. Soto was also facing criminal charges from a prior evading incident in September 2012.

Mr. Soto was convicted of the felony crimes of:

- 1.) Second Degree Murder [Penal Code § 187(a)];
- 2.) Assault Upon a Peace Officer [Penal Code § 245(c)]; and
- 2.) Evading an Officer (from September 2012) [Vehicle Code § 2800.2].

The defendant was also charged with having a prior felony conviction for evading where he was sentenced to State Prison in 2005.

Mr. Soto faces up to **21 years and 8 months to life** in custody at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation when he is sentenced on May 3, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in Department 54 of the Fresno County Superior Court.

The defendant was arrested at the time of the murder and remains in custody at the Fresno County Jail pending his sentencing.

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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