



COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WILL SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY IN FRESNO MULTIPLE MURDER CASES AGAINST KORI MUHAMMAD

Today, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office notified the Court and counsel for the defendant that it will seek the death penalty in the cases filed against Kori Muhammad for the multiple murders committed in April of 2017.

Kori Ali Muhammad (39, of Fresno), is currently charged in separate cases with committing a total of four (4) murders over a six (6) day span last April. Mr. Muhammad is charged with shooting and killing security guard Carl Williams at a Motel 6 in Central Fresno on April 13th, then gunning down Zackary Randalls, Mark Gassett, and David Jackson during a shooting spree near downtown Fresno on April 18th.

In conjunction with the murder charges, Mr. Muhammad is charged with the special circumstances alleging that (1) the victims were killed by Mr. Muhammad because of their race, and (2) Mr. Muhammad committed multiple murders. Either of the special circumstances make Mr. Muhammad eligible to receive the death penalty.

In reaching this decision, Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp said that "the District Attorney's Office has conducted an extensive review of the facts and circumstances of this case, including an examination of Mr. Muhammad's conduct prior to, during, and after his arrest for these murders. The review also included a meeting with Mr. Muhammad's defense team, which presented evidence and argument to consider on behalf of Mr. Muhammad. In making this decision, the Office weighed all of the evidence, including the deliberate choices made by Mr. Muhammad, as evidenced by his statements made to the media from within the Fresno County Jail. After considering the law and the responsibilities of this Office, the decision was made to seek the death penalty in this case."

There will be no further comment on this case pending the outcome of the trial.

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