



COUNTY OF FRESNO

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2022

Abel Echartea Convicted of Second-Degree Murder

Today, June 27, 2022, Abel Isaias Echartea (33, of Fresno) was found guilty by a jury on one (1) count of second-degree murder. Additionally, the jury found the alleged enhancement, personally discharging a firearm and causing great bodily injury or death, to be true.

On December 23, 2020, Echartea shot 37-year-old Philip Ozuna multiple times. After the shooting he fled to Marion, Indiana where he was later arrested by the U.S. Marshall's Fugitive Task Force and brought back to Fresno County to face charges.

Echartea faces 40 years to life in state prison and is scheduled to be sentenced on August 1, 2022, in Department 70 of the Fresno County Superior Court.

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office would like to thank the Fresno Police Department for their dedication to this case.

This case was successfully prosecuted by Senior Deputy District Attorney Kelly Smith. Smith was assisted by Senior Investigators Virginia Rodriguez, Todd Parsons and Michael Johns from the Fresno County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigations.

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