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Gang-related shooting that injured one person results in three convictions

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced that the three individuals involved in a gang-related shooting in Gresham, Oregon have been convicted and have received various amounts of prison time.

“Our system and community-based partners do a lot of outreach, especially to our community’s youth, to prevent gang violence from ever occurring. An act of gang violence can have a tremendous impact on a community. When there is an incident that has a gang nexus, we respond quickly to ensure accountability and to provide a continuum of resources to the families and community members impacted by this violence,” said Multnomah County Senior Deputy District Attorney David Hannon, who litigated this case.

This investigation started on June 1, 2018 when law enforcement responded to a shooting in the 18800 block of Southeast Yamhill Street in Gresham, Oregon. When officers arrived, they located an adult male with a gunshot wound to the abdomen. The suspects, later identified as Jesus Vegas-Salazar, Romunaldo Pacheco and Francisco Lopez-Santana had left the scene in a vehicle being driven by Lopez-Santana.

During the investigation, law enforcement determined Vegas-Salazar was the shooter and Pacheco was a passenger inside the vehicle and helped plan the shooting and getaway.

This shooting occurred just outside of an apartment complex at a time when kids and families were outside coming home from school and work.

“This shooting – like many of the gang-involved shootings we see - happened with no warning and left people in the area with no time to react,” SDDA Hannon said. “Witnesses reported that as they heard the gunshots ring out, they ran for cover behind nearby cars for protection.”

The victim in this case suffered serious injuries that required multiple surgeries.

Vegas-Salazar pleaded guilty to one count of assault in the second degree. He received a 70 month prison sentence.

Pacheco pleaded guilty to one count of assault in the third degree and unlawful use of a weapon. He received a 48 month prison sentence.

Lopez-Santana pleaded guilty to one count of assault in the third degree and unlawful use of a weapon. He will be sentenced at a later date. According to court documents, Lopez-Santana will receive a 36 month prison sentence.

The Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office recognizes the Gresham Police Department, the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office and the East Metro Gang Task Force for their dedicated efforts investigating this case.

The Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office works closely with the City of Portland’s Office of Youth Violence Prevention and attends the bi-weekly Community Peace Collaborative meeting, which is a coalition of law enforcement, service providers and community members who are focused on encouraging people to take a stand against gun violence.

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