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NEWS RELEASE

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Pomona Man Sentenced for Shooting That Killed 8-Year-Old Boy

A Pomona man was sentenced today to life in state prison without the possibility of parole for killing an 8-year-old boy who was inside a home last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jurors deliberated less than two hours on Dec. 5, 2018, before finding Sengchan Houll (dob 12/14/81) guilty of one count of first-degree murder, two counts each of shooting at an occupied dwelling and negligent discharge of a firearm and one count of shooting from a motor vehicle.

Deputy District Attorney Lance Hansen of the Hardcore Gang Division said the panel also found true a special circumstance allegation that the murder was perpetrated by means of discharging a firearm from a motor vehicle.

On Feb. 20, 2017, Houll was in a vehicle when he shot at a home on the 1100 block of West 11th Street in Pomona, according to court testimony.

During the shooting, victim Jonah Hwang, 8, was struck by the gunfire, the prosecutor said. The child later died from his injuries.

Houll also shot at the same home on one occasion before the murder and then again twice after the murder, the prosecutor said.

Case KA114915 was investigated by the Pomona Police Department.

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Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.