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NEWS RELEASE

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West Covina Man Charged With Murdering Grandmother and Injuring Grandfather in New Year's Day Attack

WEST COVINA, Calif. — A 28-year-old man has been charged with murdering his 74-year-old grandmother and injuring his 77-year-old grandfather in their West Covina home on New Year's Day.

“Priscilla Sesanto lost her life in a senseless and violent crime at the hands of her grandson,” Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman said. “Priscilla and Philip Sesanto were married for more than 50 years and beloved in their community. This case illustrates the tragic consequences of violence committed against the elderly population, with that violence often perpetrated by family members.”

Joshua Philip Day (dob 10/29/97) of West Covina is charged in case 26PSCFoooo2 with one count of murder and one felony count of elder or dependent adult abuse with great bodily injury.

On Jan. 1, at approximately 12:30 p.m., it is alleged that the defendant repeatedly punched his grandparents, Priscilla Sesanto, 74, and Philip Sesanto, 77. The defendant was living in their home. A neighbor called 911 and emergency medical personnel transported both victims to the hospital. The defendant was taken into custody hours later.

Priscilla Sesanto went into a coma and died on Jan. 2, while Philip Sesanto suffered serious injuries but survived.

The Court denied bail. His arraignment is set for Jan. 14 in Department N of the Pomona Courthouse South.

If convicted as charged, Day faces up to 25 years to life plus nine years in state prison.

This case is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Stephanie Chavez of the Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Section and remains under investigation by the West Covina Police Department.

The charges filed in this case are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.