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NEWS RELEASE

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Couple Enters Plea for Fatal Stabbing Case in Rose Bowl Parking Lot

A couple entered no contest pleas today for their roles in the fatal stabbing of a man in the parking lot of the Rose Bowl in 2018, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Miguel Castaneda, 24, of Los Angeles entered the plea to one felony count of voluntary manslaughter and admitted using a knife as a deadly and dangerous weapon.

Deputy District Attorney Christopher Stogel said co-defendant Valentina Rosales, 25, of Pasadena pleaded to one felony count of accessory after the fact.

Sentencing for both is scheduled on March 4 in Department E of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pasadena Branch. Castaneda faces 12 years in state prison and Rosales faces four years in prison as a result of the pleas.

Victim Demetrio Tapia Jr., 22, was stabbed to death during a fight with Castaneda on October 1, 2018, the prosecutor said. Rosales was present during the fight and drove Castaneda from the scene.

Case GA104407 was investigated by the Pasadena Police Department.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

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.