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NEWS RELEASE

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Gang Member Found Guilty of Murder in Santa Clarita Park

A 21-year-old man has been found guilty of the gang murder of a man at Begonias Lane Park in Santa Clarita last year, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

A jury found Nicholas Colletta of Saugus guilty of one count each of first-degree murder with the allegation that the crime was committed for the benefit of a criminal street gang, possession of a firearm by a felon with three priors, unlawful possession of ammunition and carrying a loaded firearm.

Jurors also found true that the defendant personally and intentionally discharged a handgun and caused great bodily injury. The verdict was delivered on Nov. 16 but read today.

Co-defendant Jacqueline Arreola, 25, of Newhall pleaded no contest on April 3 to one count of accessory after the fact. She testified as a witness in Colletta's trial.

Sentencing for Colletta is scheduled on Jan. 18 in Department F of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch. Sentencing for Arreola is scheduled on Dec. 10.

Deputy District Attorneys Adan Montalban and Brenda Lee of the Hardcore Gang Division prosecuted case PA089346.

On July 11, 2017, Ivan Solis, 25, was shot to death at the park by Colletta after the defendant issued a gang challenge, prosecutors said. Following the shooting, both defendants fled the scene in a vehicle, prosecutors added.

Colletta faces 50 years to life in state prison. Arreola will be sentenced to three years of formal probation and time served.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Santa Clarita Station.

[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.