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Approved:

RMW

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## Sexual Assault Suspect Charged Following DNA Match

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Jose Luis Meza Jr. (DOB 10/30/90), of Oxnard, has been charged with multiple sexual assault crimes related to an attack that occurred in 2020. Meza is charged with committing acts of forcible oral copulation, sexual battery by restraint, and assault with intent to commit forcible sexually motivated crimes. It is also alleged that Meza is eligible for sentencing under California's Three Strikes Law. Meza pled not guilty at yesterday's arraignment.

On September 14, 2020, a female victim was attacked by a person unknown to her. The attack was initially investigated by officers with the Oxnard Police Department who collected physical evidence from the crime scene. Meza was later connected to the attack through DNA testing of evidence completed by the Ventura County Sheriff's Office Forensic Services Bureau.

This year, investigators with the District Attorney's Office conducted additional investigation into this attack. On August 13, 2024, investigators arrested Meza at the Ventura County Jail where he was being held on unrelated charges.

Any witnesses or victims of additional crimes committed by Meza are encouraged to contact District Attorney Investigator Greg Webb who investigated this case. Investigator Webb can be reached at (805) 477-1627. Senior Deputy District Attorney Brent Nibecker is prosecuting the case.

Webb and Nibecker are both members of the Ventura County District Attorney's Cold Case Sexual Assault Unit. The United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Affairs funds this unit through grants disbursed through its Sexual Assault Kit Initiative. Members of the Cold Case Sexual Assault Unit are tasked with investigating and prosecuting unsolved sexual assault cases in conjunction with the Forensic Services Bureau. More information about the Ventura County Sexual Assault Kit Initiative can be found at VCSAKI.com.

Meza's next scheduled court date is set for August 23, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 11 of the Ventura County Superior Court. A preliminary examination date is scheduled for August 28, 2024, at 8:15 a.m. in courtroom 14. Meza remains in custody with bail set at \$410,000.

Case: 2024022050
Defendant Information:

Jose Luis Meza Jr. (DOB 10/30/90) Oxnard

## Charges:

- PC 220 Assault with intent to commit a felony
- PC 287(c)(2)(a) Forcible oral copulation
- PC 243.4(a) Sexual battery by restraint

## **Special Allegations**

- PC 667S3 3 prior strikes
- PC 1170(h)(3) Prior serious or violent felony
- CRC 4.421(a)(3) Victim was vulnerable
- CRC 4.421(b)(1) Defendant has engaged in violent conduct
- CRC 4.421(b)(2) Defendant's prior convictions as an adult
- CRC 4.421(b)(3) Defendant has served a prior term in prison
- CRC 4.421(b)(4) Defendant was on probation, mandatory supervision, post release
- CRC 4.421(b)(5) Defendant's prior performance was unsatisfactory