



**ERIK NASARENKO**  
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
**NEWS RELEASE**



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## Gang Member Pleads Guilty to Oxnard Murder

VENTURA, Calif. – District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Christopher Paul Arevalo (DOB 01/09/92), of Oxnard, pled guilty on March 13, 2025, to the second-degree murder of Giovanni Vega. Arevalo also admitted to the special allegation that he personally used a firearm to commit the murder.

On December 8, 2016, Arevalo and an associate entered a convenience store in Oxnard. Approximately one minute later, Mr. Vega walked into the store. As he exited, Arevalo and his associate followed. Arevalo quickly caught up to Mr. Vega, asked him where he was from, and then shot him four times before fleeing with his associate.

The next morning, a jogger discovered Mr. Vega's body along W. Vineyard Avenue, approximately 130 yards from the convenience store.

Surveillance footage from the convenience store led Oxnard Police Department investigators to Arevalo, a known gang member. The following day, officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in which Arevalo was a backseat passenger. During the stop, they discovered the firearm used in the murder tucked between the seat where Arevalo had been sitting. Ballistics analysis later confirmed that the four shell casings found near Mr. Vega's body matched the recovered weapon.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Theresa Pollara, a member of the Ventura County District Attorney's Office Major Crimes Homicides Unit, prosecuted the case.

"The victim's family has endured immense hardship due to the long passage of time between their loved one's death and this plea," Ms. Pollara said. "Hopefully, this resolution brings them the closure and peace they deserve."

Arevalo is scheduled to be sentenced on April 11, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom 27 of the Ventura County Superior Court. He is expected to be sentenced to 35 years to life in state prison.

**Case: 2017011403**

**Defendant Information:**

Christopher Paul Arevalo (DOB 01/09/92)  
Oxnard

**Charges pled guilty to:**

- PC 187(a) – Second-degree murder

**Special allegation admitted:**

- PC 12022.53(d) – Personal and intentional discharge of a firearm

