



**OFFICE OF THE YOLO COUNTY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**Jeff W. Reisig  
District Attorney**

301 Second Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 666-8180--Fax (530) 666-8423

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Garrett Hamilton  
Supervising Deputy District Attorney  
(530) 666-8356**

**NO CHARGES AT THIS TIME IN WEST SAC HOMICIDE**

May 22, 2009 -- Woodland, CA --Based on the information provided to the Yolo County District Attorney's Office by the West Sacramento Police Department regarding the May 20th fatal shooting on Cummins Way in West Sacramento, no charges will be filed against Michael Moniz at this time. The evidence presented established that Joe Villanueva, deceased, initiated an attack as he stood in the street and began shooting a handgun at people in the front yard of 1101 Cummins Way, striking both people and property. While he shot, he was assisted by Ray Martinez, who was near him in the street. According to the evidence presented, Mr. Martinez may also have been firing a handgun at the property and people in 1101 Cummins Way. Evidence presented by the West Sacramento Police Department also established that both men had connections to the Broderick Boys criminal street gang and that the residents of 1101 Cummins Way had been threatened with gang violence the day prior to the attack, perhaps as a result of an ongoing dispute with the residents of 1100 Cummins Way, where Villanueva resided. The evidence presented established that after Mr. Villanueva and Mr. Martinez began their armed attack on the occupants of 1101 Cummins Way, Mr. Michael Moniz obtained a shotgun from inside the home and returned fire, fatally striking Villanueva and seriously injuring Martinez.

Based on the information presented to this office by the West Sacramento Police Department, it is the conclusion of the District Attorney's Office that Mr. Moniz's actions were within the established legal doctrines of self defense and defense of others. No charges will be filed at this time.

For more information: Contact Supervising Deputy District Attorney Garrett Hamilton (530) 666-8356.

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