



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Office of the District Attorney
Twelfth Judicial District

Scot D. Key
District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIRST DEGREE MURDER CONVICTION OF SERGIO BOYLE

Twelfth Judicial District Attorney Scot D. Key announced today that a Lincoln County jury has found Sergio Boyle, age 53, guilty of First Degree Deliberate Murder for the killing of victim Antonio Armendariz along with three counts of Tampering with Evidence and one count of Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle following a seven-day trial before the Honorable Angie K. Schneider.

In August of 2019, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department went to Mr. Armendariz' residence in an attempt to find him since his family reported that they had not had recent contact with him. When deputies spoke to Sergio Boyle, who lived on Mr. Armendariz' property, at first he denied knowing the whereabouts of Mr. Armendariz. When deputies confronted Boyle with the fact that he was seen on Border Patrol cameras driving Mr. Armendariz' vehicle into Mexico, Boyle then confessed to shooting and dismembering Mr. Armendariz six days prior, but claimed that he was acting in self-defense.

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU) was activated which includes members of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, the Twelfth Judicial District Attorney's Office, the Ruidoso Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies. MCU members interviewed Boyle who told them that half of Mr. Armendariz' body was in a 55-gallon barrel that he hid at a friend's shed in Carrizozo and the other half of the body he buried in the mountains north of Capitan. The MCU recovered Mr. Armendariz' body, which was cut into eight pieces with a saw, as well as evidence at the Armendariz residence that indicated that Boyle's self-defense claim was unsupported. After gathering more evidence and speaking to additional witnesses, it was found that the motive for Boyle killing Mr. Armendariz was due to a dispute over Mr. Armendariz' property which Boyle believed should have been passed to him when his mother died as opposed to being passed to Mr. Armendariz.

"I knew the case had the highest probability of success when I selected both Roxeanne Esquibel and Marcus Blais as the representatives of my office to handle the prosecution of this murder case. The two attorneys worked tirelessly to make sure the victim's voice was heard at trial. I am pleased with the verdict returned by the Lincoln County jurors and hope Mr. Armendariz' family has just a little bit of comfort in knowing that Sergio Boyle will now face the consequences for the crimes he committed," said District Attorney Key.

Sergio Boyle faces life imprisonment plus 10 ½ years. A sentencing date has not yet been set.

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