



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

Scot D. Key
District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 14, 2021

SERGIO BOYLE SENTENCED FOR MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE

Twelfth Judicial District Attorney, Scot D. Key, announces that a Sentencing Hearing was completed on Defendant Sergio Boyle, age 53, of Nogal, New Mexico. On October 14, 2021, a Lincoln County jury found Sergio Boyle guilty of First-Degree Deliberate Murder for the killing of victim, Antonio Armendariz. Additionally, he was convicted of three (3) counts of Tampering with Evidence and one (1) count of Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle, following a seven-day trial before the Honorable Chief Judge, Angie K. Schneider.

In August of 2019, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department attempted to locate Antonio Armendariz, as his family reported they had not been able to contact him. When deputies spoke to Sergio Boyle, who lived on Mr. Armendariz' property, he denied any knowledge of Mr. Armendariz' whereabouts. When deputies confronted Boyle with the fact that he was witnessed on Border Patrol cameras driving Mr. Armendariz' vehicle into Mexico, Boyle then confessed to shooting and dismembering Mr. Armendariz six (6) days prior, claiming the killing was self defense.

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU) was activated, which includes members of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, Twelfth Judicial District Attorney's Office, Ruidoso Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies. MCU members interviewed Boyle who relayed half of Mr. Armendariz' body was in 55-gallon barrel that was hidden at a friend's shed in Carrizozo, New Mexico. He stated the other half of the body was buried in the mountains north of Capitan. The MCU recovered Mr. Armendariz' body, which was cut into eight (8) pieces with a saw, as well as evidence at the Armendariz' residence that indicated Boyle's self defense claim was unsupported. After gathering more evidence and speaking to additional witnesses, it was found the motive for Boyle killing Mr. Armendariz was due to a dispute over Mr. Armendariz' property. Boyle believed the property should have been awarded to him when his mother passed away, as opposed to being awarded to Mr. Armendariz.

The Honorable Chief Judge, Angie K. Schneider sentenced Sergio Boyle to a period of life imprisonment. He was also sentence to an additional 10 ½ years for three (3) counts of Tampering with Evidence and one count of Unlawful Taking of a Motor Vehicle. The life sentence will be served consecutively to the other counts at the New Mexico Department of Corrections.

Boyle's case was investigated by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department and prosecuted by Chief Deputy District Attorney, Roxanne B. Esquibel, and Deputy District Attorney, Marcus J. Blais.

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