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August 28, 2023
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Approved by CJZ
Press Release #23-42

Jacob Leighty Found Guilty of Charges, Including Attempted Voluntary Manslaughter for Stabbing a Man During a Fight

People v. Jacob Leighty: Kern County Superior Court Case #BF192828A

(Bakersfield) – Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a significant conviction on August 25, 2023, and August 28, 2023. In a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Pedro Naveiras, a Kern County jury found defendant Jacob Leighty guilty of attempted voluntary manslaughter, assault with a deadly weapon, and battery causing great bodily injury. The jury also made separate factual findings that Leighty personally used a dangerous weapon and inflicted great bodily injury during the commission of the offenses. The jury found the defendant not guilty of attempted murder. In total, Leighty was convicted of three offenses, all of which were violent strike offenses affecting the same victim.

On November 17, 2022, shortly after 8:00 A.M., Leighty was at a friend’s apartment with his girlfriend when the victim, an acquaintance, observed Leighty strike his girlfriend. The victim confronted Leighty and during the altercation, they decided they were going to exit the apartment to physically fight. Upon exiting, Leighty began stabbing the victim and struck him a total of three times. The victim sustained a stab wound on his back, to his abdomen, and to his elbow in an attempt to protect his face. The wound to the victim’s stomach caused internal bleeding, damage to some internal organs, and required surgery. Leighty then fled the scene, anticipating the victim to die.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented on the verdict, stating; “Adding deadly weapons to a fistfight escalates the violence and too often yields deadly results. Offenders who ratchet up their level of violence by use of deadly weapons face increased penalties under the law that will be enforced.”

Sentencing is scheduled for September 27, 2023, before Superior Court Judge John Brownlee. Leighty faces a potential of up to 17 years in prison.

Jacob Leighty:

