



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **MAN SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS IN PRISON FOR PATERSON HIT AND RUN**

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PATERSON, NEW JERSEY:

March 26, 2021

Passaic County Prosecutor Camelia M. Valdes announces that Passaic County Superior Court Judge Justine A. Niccollai, J.S.C. has sentenced Jesus Herrera to seven years in New Jersey State Prison for a November 11, 2017 motor vehicle collision resulting in the death of a Paterson resident.

On January 17, 2020, a jury returned guilty verdicts on one count of second degree Leaving the Scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident Resulting in Death, and one count of third degree Endangering an Injured Victim. The second degree conviction carries a sentence of up to ten years in New Jersey State Prison and the third degree conviction carries a sentence of up to five years in New Jersey State Prison.

Judge Niccollai sentenced the defendant to seven years, on the second degree Leaving the Scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident Resulting in Death. The defendant was sentenced to a concurrent term of four years flat New Jersey State Prison on the third degree Endangering an Injured Victim, for a total of 7 years to be served in New Jersey State Prison.

The evidence presented to the jury during the trial showed that on November 11, 2017, at approximately 9:17 p.m., the defendant, operating his 1997 GMC Sierra truck, struck 48 year old Luis Arango, who was crossing the street in front of 910 Main Street, in South Paterson. The defendant did not stop, but rather left the scene, returning later after a civilian witness chased him down. Mr. Arango died as a result of his injuries. The case was investigated by the Paterson Police

Department, the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office Vehicular Homicide Unit, and the Passaic County Sheriff's Department.

The State was represented at trial by Senior Assistant Prosecutor Julie Serfess. The defendant was represented by attorney Brian Neary, Esq.

Any inquiries may be directed to Passaic County Senior Assistant Prosecutor Julie Serfess, who can be reached at 973-837-7718 or [jserfess@passaiccountynj.org](mailto:jserfess@passaiccountynj.org).



Jesus Herrera