



**Aisha Braveboy**  
State's Attorney

# PRESS RELEASE

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## MAN SENTENCED TO 65 YEARS IN PRISON IN MS-13 GANG RELATED MURDER CASE

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – State's Attorney Aisha Braveboy announced that 23-year-old Mario Clarios-Arias has been sentenced to life suspended all but 65 years in prison for the heinous attack on two teenagers.

He was involved in a gang-related murder that left a 15-year-old boy dead and another boy, who survived, suffering from head trauma and other injuries. The surviving victim was 16 years old. On April 7, 2021, officers responded to New Hampshire Avenue and Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring where they found the surviving victim bloodied and walking in the street. He directed them to the woods where he said his friend was killed. Subsequently, police located the deceased victim in a wooded area of the Northwest Branch Trail.

“Justice has been served in this case,” said State's Attorney Braveboy. “Mr. Clarios-Arias will be held accountable for this horrific crime as well as the others who participated in it. I believe today's sentencing helps move the healing process forward for the victims' families and the community.”

Clarios-Arias and 4 others participated in the attack. The surviving victims told officers that they identified themselves as members of Mara Salvatrucha, the MS-13 gang. The investigation resulted in the arrest and prosecution of the following individuals: Marlon Stephen Miguel Ramirez, 20, who entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to life suspend all but 50 years; Jiecsin Portillo Cruz, 21, who entered a guilty plea and was sentenced life suspend all but 35 years and William Rivera-Martinez, 20, who entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to life suspend all but 50 years. Edras Araeli Lopez-Lopez, 20, is scheduled for a status hearing on October 11th. During a hearing on Thursday he withdrew his guilty plea and fired his attorney. The upcoming hearing will be to confirm that he has a new attorney and to select a new trial date.

Clarios-Arias was sentenced on Thursday, September 21st. He was convicted on August 25th, of conspiracy to commit first degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, and first-degree assault.

☎ 301-780-8206



Denise Douglas  
Director of Communications



[dadouglas@co.pg.md.us](mailto:dadouglas@co.pg.md.us)

Office of the State's Attorney, Prince George's County