



Aisha Braveboy
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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

HYATTSVILLE MAN CONVICTED IN GANG RELATED MURDER CASE

UPPER MARLBORO, MD – A fifth man has been convicted in a horrific MS-13 gang-motivated murder case. Mario Clarios-Arias, 23, was found guilty on Friday, August 25th, of conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, and first-degree assault.

“It was heartbreaking to hear both the mother of the deceased victim and the surviving victim testify, and I commend them for taking the witness stand to help Assistant State’s Attorney’s Cynthia Bridgford and Adam Trombly secure this conviction,” said State’s Attorney Aisha Braveboy. “We can now close this case and know that we have achieved justice for the deceased, the surviving victim, and their families.

Clarios-Arias was among a group that killed a 15-year-old and attempted to murder a 16-year-old on April 7, 2021. Officers responded to the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring where they encountered the surviving victim bloodied and walking in the street. The surviving victim told officers that his friend was dead in the woods. Police used patrol and aviation units to locate the 15-year-old in a wooded area of the Northwest Branch Trail.

The surviving victim also told officers that Clarios-Arias and the assailants identified themselves as members of Mara Salvatrucha during the attack. 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 to life suspend all but 35 years; William Rivera-Martinez, 20, who entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to life suspend all but 50 years; and Edras Araeli Lopez-Lopez, 20, who entered a guilty plea and is pending sentencing.

Clarios-Arias will be sentenced on September 21st.

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