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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hidalgo County man sentenced to life in prison for 2018 murder

EDINBURG – A Hidalgo County man will serve life in the Texas Department of Corrections – Institutional Division for the stabbing death of a Pharr man.

Feliciano Flores Avalos Jr., 52, was charged with a first degree felony and sentenced to life in prison for the 2018 murder of Julio Cesar Villarreal, 32.

Avalos was arrested on April 22, 2018, which was the date of the incident, by the Pharr Police Department.

Assistant District Attorney's Vance Gonzales and Mauricio Martinez of the Felony Division prosecuted the case and Selina Sandoval-Serna served as the Court Advocate. Sentencing was handed down on July 12 by 370th District Court Judge Noe Gonzalez.

"I commend the investigative work of the Pharr Police Officers as well as the prosecutors and court advocate for helping to bring justice for the victim and his family," said Criminal District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez, Jr.

Court Advocate Services is a part of the DA's Crime Victims Unit. The court advocate assists victims and their families navigate through the judicial process and attend all court proceedings.

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Photo: Feliciano Flores Avalos Jr.