



**RICARDO RODRIGUEZ, JR.**  
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, April 14, 2022

**Edinburg man found guilty of capital murder**

**EDINBURG** – An Edinburg man was found guilty of capital murder by a Hidalgo County jury in the death of 32-year old Jose Angel Martinez. In this case, the punishment for capital murder is automatic life without parole.

Gabino Salinas, 37, was convicted of count one of capital murder and count two of possession of marijuana, both felonies. The five day trial was held April 4 – April 11 in the 206th District Court and was presided over by Honorable Judge Rose Guerra Reyna. The jury handed down the verdict on Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

The case was prosecuted by Felony Division Assistant District Attorney's Ana Liz De Leon Vargas and Marco Cepeda. They were assisted by Victims Advocate Clarissa Castaneda; Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office Investigator Javier Vargas, Deputy John Vasquez, Investigator Jorge Rivera, Investigator Mike Lopez and Crime Scene Specialist Sandra Rangel; Dr. Norma Jean Farley; and Texas Department of Public Safety Weslaco Crime Lab.

"My office is very proud of the exemplary work done by ADA Ana Liz De Leon Vargas and ADA Marco Cepeda who prosecuted the case and helped bring justice to the victim and his family," said Criminal District Attorney Ricardo Rodriguez Jr. "I also want to commend the great investigative work of the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office."

The kidnapping and murder occurred on November 8, 2017, when Salinas and three other individuals entered into the home of Jose Angel Martinez. He was arrested two days later by the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office.

Sentencing is scheduled for Monday, April 18 where Salinas faces life in prison without parole.

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**Mugshot:** Gabino Salinas