

## Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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### **AURORA GANG MEMBER GUILTY OF FIRST-DEGREE MURDER IN JUNE 2017 SHOOTING DEATH OF RODOLFO ROCHA MARTIN GARCIA FACES A PRISON SENTENCE OF AT LEAST 65 YEARS**

November 6, 2019

An Aurora man awaits his prison sentence for shooting and killing 34-year-old Rodolfo Rocha, Jr., of Aurora in June 2017.

A Kane County jury on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019, found 25-year-old **Martin Garcia, Jr.**, guilty of the offenses of:

- First-degree murder
- Armed violence, Class X felony
- Unlawful possession of a firearm by a street gang member, Class 2 felony

In addition, the jury found that Garcia personally discharged the gun that caused Rocha's death. The jurors deliberated for about 4 hours before reaching the verdict.

Kane County prosecutors presented evidence that the evening of June 10, 2017, Rodolfo Rocha was outside a Grove Street home with friends and family when Garcia and co-defendant Anthony C. Medina, 26, approached them and told them to declare a gang affiliation. When they replied that they were not gang members, Garcia and Medina pulled out guns and shot Rocha, killing him. During the incident Medina shot Garcia in the side, and multiple gunshots struck Rocha's car. No one else was injured.

Kane County Circuit Judge John A. Barsanti set Garcia's next court appearance for 9 a.m. Dec. 4, 2019, in Courtroom 319 at the Kane County Judicial Center for filing of motions and to set a sentencing date. Garcia faces a sentence of between 65 years' and life imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Garcia remains in custody at the Kane County jail, where he had been held in lieu of \$4 million bail since his arrest. Judge Barsanti revoked his bond upon conviction.

Medina's next court appearance is set for 9 a.m. Dec. 13, 2019, in Courtroom 319. He remains in custody at the Kane County jail in lieu of \$3 million bail.

The charges against Medina are not proof of guilt. Medina is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the state's burden to prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

**Kane County State's Attorney Joe McMahon said:**

"I am pleased that this jury has given Rodolfo Rocha's family, friends and neighbors a measure of peace and justice by finding Mr. Garcia guilty of this senseless murder. The verdict should reassure the people of Aurora that gang members who choose to carry out their acts of violence will be held accountable. Gang membership is for losers and leads to prison or an early death. My thanks to Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Lori Anderson and Sarah Seberger, and to the Aurora Police Department, particularly Det. Guillermo Trujillo, for ensuring that Mr. Garcia was brought to justice."

**Martin Garcia, Jr.:** Age 25 (d.o.b. 5-23-1994), of the 600 block of North Root Street, Aurora, Illinois. Case No. 17CF1757.

**Anthony C. Medina:** Age 26 (d.o.b. 1-18-1993), of the 1100 block of Gates Street, Aurora, Illinois. Case No. 17CF1128.