

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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**GANG MEMBER MARTIN GARCIA GETS 75 YEARS IN PRISON
FOR MURDERING RODOLFO ROCHA OF AURORA IN 2017
CASE OF CO-DEFENDANT, WHO ALSO FACES MURDER CHARGES, IS PENDING**

March 11, 2020

Kane County Circuit Judge John A. Barsanti today sentenced 25-year-old **Martin Garcia, Jr.**, to 75 years of imprisonment for the 2017 shooting death of 34-year-old Rodolfo Rocha, Jr., of Aurora in June 2017.

A Kane County jury on Nov. 5, 2019, found Garcia guilty of the offenses of first-degree murder, armed violence and unlawful possession of a firearm by a street gang member. In addition, the jury found that Garcia personally discharged the gun that caused Rocha's death.

Garcia faced a sentence of between 65 years and life imprisonment.

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, 27, 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.

In accordance with Illinois law, Garcia receives credit for 910 days served in the Kane County jail.

Medina is charged with first-degree murder and other offenses. His case is pending. His next court appearance is set for 9 a.m. April 10, 2020, 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:

"Mr. Garcia is a violent gang member whose poor choices in life have landed him in prison, most likely for good, unable to ever again breathe as a free man. This prosecution and sentence should make clear that anyone who chooses to participate in gang activity in Kane County will be held accountable. Gang membership is for losers and joining a gang is the first step toward prison or an early death.

"I hope this sentence gives Rodolfo Rocha's family, friends and neighbors a measure of peace and justice, and I hope the work by our office and the Aurora Police Department reassures the people of Aurora and all of Kane County that the public's safety is our priority.

"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 justice for Rodolfo Rocha's family and community."

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 27 (d.o.b. 1-18-1993), of the 1100 block of Gates Street, Aurora, Illinois. Case No. 17CF1128.