

Office of the Kane County State's Attorney



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JESUS LECHUGA GETS 55 YEARS FOR 2004 GANG MURDER OF JOSÉ COVARRUBIAS OF CARPENTERSVILLE

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Kane County State's Attorney Jamie L. Mosser announces that 38-year-old **Jesus Lechuga** has been sentenced to 55 years of imprisonment in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

In July of 2021, a Kane County jury found Lechuga guilty of the offense of first-degree murder in the 2004 shooting death of José Covarrubias of Carpentersville.

Kane County Assistant State's Attorneys Mark D. Stajdohar and Matthew Rodgers presented evidence during the trial that, shortly after midnight on March 1, 2004, Lechuga went to Covarrubias' home on Chippewa Circle in Carpentersville and knocked on his bedroom window. When Covarrubias got to the window, Lechuga shot him through the window with a single bullet from a .357-caliber revolver that struck Covarrubias in the head, killing him. Lechuga then went to his gang leader's home to take credit for the murder. Others present overheard Lechuga claim responsibility for the fatal shooting. Lechuga went home and was seen with a large revolver tucked into his pants. Lechuga bragged about the fatal shooting at least 21 times during the next 2 years. Lechuga and Covarrubias were members of rival gangs at the time.

The sentence, delivered by Kane County Judge Alice C. Tracy, is 30 years for first-degree murder and a mandatory 25-year enhancement because Lechuga personally fired the gun used in the crime.

According to Illinois law Lechuga must serve the full sentence. He receives credit for 512 days served in the Kane County jail.

ASA Stajdohar said:

"Mr. Lechuga killed José Covarrubias without a thought for him and his family. He now has decades to sit in prison and think about it. My thanks to the Carpentersville Police Department for its investigation of this matter and all those who came forward to testify against Mr. Lechuga."

Jesus Lechuga: Age 38 (d.o.b. 6-4-1983), last address of Belvidere, Illinois. Case No. 10CF419.