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For Immediate Release

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Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Killing Two in Fort Worth

Fort Worth, TX – A Tarrant County jury found Alfredo Cantu Martinez, 45, guilty of capital murder for the 2024 shooting deaths of two men. He was automatically sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Tarrant County Assistant District Attorneys D.J. Estes and Lauren Lawrence prosecuted this case.

On April 23, 2024, 26-year-old Martin Hernandez Jr. picked up Martinez, his cousin, in Dallas. The two drove to Fort Worth, where they planned to visit several people, including 24-year-old Michael Cantu.

Hernandez and Martinez began speaking with Cantu outside his home, which was in an alleyway. The three men then walked toward the alley, out of sight of Cantu's girlfriend, who was sitting in a nearby car with the hood raised.

Moments later, gunshots rang out, followed by silence.

Cantu's girlfriend found Hernandez and Cantu lying in the alley, both suffering from gunshot wounds. Martinez had fled the scene.

Cantu's girlfriend called 9-1-1.

Martinez "stole the lives of Michael Cantu and Martin Hernandez by shooting them with a firearm," Lawrence told the jury.

Cantu, who had been shot in the chest, was pronounced dead at the scene. Hernandez, who was shot multiple times, was transported to a hospital where he later died.

Officers located Martinez running from the area and took him into custody.

"You have to ask yourself – would any of you do what he did that day?" Estes asked the jury. "The answer is no."

"We should all be frightened of that man," she said. "He's guilty. He took two lives."

DA Investigator Ben Lopez and Victim Advocate Imelda Lopez also worked on this case. The Tarrant County DA's Office extends its gratitude to the Fort Worth Police Department for its thorough investigation and steadfast commitment to keeping our community safe.

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