

**IMPERIAL COUNTY  
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**From: District Attorney George Marquez  
Re: Guilty Verdict in Assault With Injury Case  
Date: July 22, 2025**

IMPERIAL COUNTY – July 22, 2025 – Earlier this week a jury found Gabriel Mark Tellez, 26, guilty of the most serious charge against him: Assault by Means Likely to Cause Great Bodily Injury in violation of Penal Code Section 245(a)(4) with an allegation under Penal Code Section 12022.7(a) that Mr. Tellez did in fact personally inflict great bodily injury on his victim.

Mr. Tellez had seen a family member walking down the side of the road in Winterhaven in the middle of the night. Possibly due to an incorrect belief that the victim had previously called the police on him, Mr. Tellez stopped his vehicle and attacked the victim. Mr. Tellez beat her with his fists until she fell to the ground. He then kicked her multiple times while she was down, cracking a rib and causing additional serious injuries to the victim. Mr. Tellez left her unconscious on the side of the road.

When she regained consciousness the victim flagged down a patrolling Imperial County Sheriff's Office (ICSO) Deputy and emotionally reported the assault. Mr. Tellez was not immediately located.

In a separate incident Mr. Tellez was accused of threatening conduct and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

In an attempt to locate Mr. Tellez and collect additional evidence ICSO executed a search warrant and coordinated with the U.S. Marshals Service. Their efforts ultimately lead to the successful apprehension of Mr. Tellez.

Following his arrest Mr. Tellez entered into a plea where he accepted a conviction for Attempted Criminal Threats, a serious felony ("strike"), in the threatening-conduct case. His sentencing hearing in that case is scheduled for next week.

The conviction this week in the assault case means that Mr. Tellez will now have a second strike on his criminal record.

Mr. Tellez also admitted an aggravating factor to this case: that Mr. Tellez had previously served a term in jail on a felony where Mr. Tellez was convicted of being an accessory after the fact by aiding Anthony Raven Shepard after Mr. Shepard had committed a felony. (Mr. Shepard was later convicted related to that incident of felony negligent discharge of a firearm.)

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The Honorable Christopher Plourd was the judge who presided over this jury trial and has ordered that Mr. Tellez remain in custody with No Bail authorized pending his sentencing hearing scheduled for August 12, 2025.

The victim in this case received services from the Imperial County District Attorney's Office Victim Witness Assistance Program.

Senior Deputy District Attorney John Harter was the assigned prosecutor for this case and received valuable assistance during this trial from Investigators from ICSO and from the Imperial County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation.

The Imperial County District Attorney's Office is committed to pursuing justice for the victims of family violence and thanks our law enforcement partners at ICSO and the U.S. Marshals service for making this prosecution possible.