



Joint Press Release

San Francisco Field Division



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BOMB MAKER CONVICTED OF MURDER SENTENCED TO LIFE

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Paul Moore was sentenced to life in state court announced Colusa County District Attorney John R. Poyner, Colusa County Sheriff Scott D. Marshall, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), San Francisco Field Division Special Agent in Charge Joseph M. Riehl.

On Dec. 6, 2011, Moore 49, a resident of Colusa was arrested on state homicide charges for the July 16, 2011, death of Roberto Ayala as a result of an explosion of a destructive device. On July 16, 2011, an explosion occurred at the Moore Brother's Farm near Colusa, Calif. As a result of the explosion, Roberto Ayala, who was working on the farm and near the explosion, died. On Aug. 12 and 15, 2011, the Colusa County Sheriff's Office received letters claiming responsibility for the construction and placement of the explosive device. The letter received on Aug. 15, contained a diagram of the explosive device. Based on evidence recovered at the scene of the explosion, it was determined the author of the letters had constructed the explosive device. During the course of the investigation Moore was identified as the author of the letters.

On Aug. 23, 2013, Moore was found guilty of the murder of Roberto Ayala and that he did so by placing a victim activated destructive device in the electrical panel that was located at the Moore Brother's Farm.

Today Honorable Judge Jeffrey A. Thompson sentenced Moore to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

“This was a very interesting case from start to finish,” stated District Attorney Poyner. “It was truly a pleasure to work with all the professional agents with the ATF, FBI, United States Secret Service, DOJ and others. The case was like a 3-hour CSI show ending with a perfect result, based on all of the forensic evidence and testimony presented in court to perfect this criminal case.”

“The dangers of manufacturing illegal devices cannot be understated,” said Special Agent in Charge Riehl. “Without question violent crime is ATF’s top priority and along with our state, local and federal partners we will continue to aggressively pursue these criminals and hold them accountable for their crimes.”

John R. Poyner, District Attorney, and Dave Druliner Special, Assistant Attorney, prosecuted the case. The prosecution is the result of an investigation by, Colusa County Sheriff's Department, ATF, FBI, U. S. Postal Inspection Service, and United States Secret Service.

ATF is the federal agency with jurisdiction for investigating violent crime and explosives violations. More information on ATF can be found at www.atf.gov.

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