





DEPT. #2 SUPERIOR COURT
FRESNO COUNTY

227015-5

Exhibit No. 9

For Ident.

For Evidence SEP 16 1983

CLK 2014.00 E08-70 R00-00



## **MERAS MEMO**

Subject: Valente Cordero aka Jesus Meras

Case: Douglas Stankewitz Date: March 17, 2020

Age: 81

Occupation: retired farm worker Residence: Fresno County Contact: 831-325-3793

Relation to defendant: alleged robbery victim

Connection to case: Witness at trial

Jonah Owen Lamb 415-302-7416 P.O. Box 31981 Oakland, CA 94604 P.I License # 18434

## **IN-PERSON INTERVIEW CONDUCTED MARCH 15, 2020:**

Note: This is not a verbatim transcription of the audio interview I recorded, but in most cases conveys the conversation, which I translated from Spanish to English.

## Translation:

Jonah Lamb: We are in Fresno, California on March 15, 2020 with Jesus Meras for an interview. How old are you?

Jesus Meras: 81

Jonah Lamb: In the past, what did you do for work?

Jesus Meras: What did I do for work? I worked here with another name.

Jonah Lamb: What was your other name?

Jesus Meras: Jesus Meras. My name is Valente Cordero.

Jonah Lamb: Where are you from?

Jesus Meras: A little town named Rio Verde in San Luis Potosi.

Jonah Lamb: In the center of Mexico?

Jesus Meras: It is near Tamaulipas.

Jonah Lamb: Do you remember the case around 1978 when a person with a pistol tried to rob

you for a check and other things?

Jesus Meras: I remember.

Jonah Lamb: How many people did this?

Jesus Meras: There was one woman and two men.

Jonah Lamb: What ethnicity were they?

Jesus Meras: I think Mexicans. One spoke Spanish.

Jonah Lamb: Which spoke Spanish?

Jesus Meras: I think it was the woman, maybe named Christina. I don't recall.

Jonah Lamb: When they met you, were they on foot or in a car?

Jesus Meras: Me. I was in a cantina here, about two streets from here; about two miles.

Jonah Lamb: What were you doing at that moment?

Jesus Meras: I was with a few female friends listening to music and I was watching.

Jonah Lamb: after that what did you do?

Jesus Meras: I left with them. Then the three others, they came up in a car and one guy had a pistol.

Jonah Lamb: Did someone have a knife?

Jesus Meras: A knife [Meras motioned to his throat].

Jonah Lamb: Did one of them put a knife to your throat?

Jesus Meras: [affirmative without speaking] They took my boots, my belt, a check and some money.

Jonah Lamb: Did they use the pistol against you?

Jesus Meras: They didn't use it against me, but after they got into the car they fired some shots.

Jonah Lamb: To look more dangerous?

Jesus Meras: They fired shots at the ground.

Jonah Lamb: After this incident do recall a police officer talking to you?

Jesus Meras: That day, no. But another day I spoke with my boss about the check going missing and he reported the incident.

Jonah Lamb: Did you then speak with a police officer?

Jesus Meras: Yes. I don't know how long after but I went to court afterward involving another case.

Jonah Lamb: Did you go and speak in court on this case?

Jesus Meras: In the court.

Jonah Lamb: Do you recall the name of the lawyer in this case?

Jesus Meras: No I don't remember.

Jonah Lamb: James Ardaiz?

Jesus Meras: I don't know. Some men came to my house but I don't recall. One had dark hair.

Jonah Lamb: In 1978 were you a citizen?

Jesus Meras: I was illegal

Jonah Lamb: You are legal now?

Jesus Meras: I am legal.

Jonah Lamb: Do you remember when you got your papers?

Jesus Meras: The 80s, the father of Bush. Reagan, yes.

Jonah Lamb: did you receive help or aid, regarding papers, for your part in the case, for

testifying?

Jesus Meras: I didn't need help. My bosses helped get my papers.

Jonah Lamb: So you didn't get any help for testifying.

Jesus Meras: They did not help me.

Jonah Lamb: Do you remember the year you were robbed?

Jesus Meras: I remember but not exactly; '75 or '76.

Jonah Lamb: So it was not 78?

Jesus Meras: No, no. I was in court then.

Jonah Lamb: So the incident happened in '74 '75 '76?

Jesus Meras: More or less. I don't recall. '75 or '76.

Jonah Lamb: Have you ever been in court before this case?

Jesus Meras: In jail?

Jonah Lamb: Yes

Jesus Meras: For a day or two, no more.

Jonah Lamb: For what?

Jesus Meras: I drank too much.

Jonah Lamb: Me too

Jesus Meras: But I went in and then left. It was in Fresno. I paid some money and left.

Jonah Lamb: Were there any police you had dealt with before the robbery that were involved in

the court case?

Jesus Meras: No.

**END**