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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

THE STATE OF ARIZONA, Plaintiff, vs. RANDAL AZAEL BASILIO SANTILLAN, Defendant.	CR2026-003251-001 **STATE'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY AND NOTICE OF AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES AND WITNESSES** (Assigned to the Honorable Suzanne Marwil, Div. CRJ14)

The State of Arizona, by and through the undersigned Deputy County Attorney, pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-752(B) and Rule 15.1(i) Rules of Criminal Procedure, hereby gives notice of its intent to seek the death penalty if the defendant Randel Azael Basilio Santillan is convicted of First-Degree Murder. Further, the State hereby discloses and lists the A.R.S. § 13-751(F) aggravating circumstances, as well as the witnesses and evidence the State will present during the sentencing proceedings before the trier of fact for the defendant's conviction of First-Degree Murder.

The State alleges the following aggravating circumstances:

- **13-751(F)(2)**: The defendant has been or was previously convicted of a serious offense, whether preparatory or completed, to wit:
    - Count 2 in the current indictment, to wit:
        - Count 2: Kidnapping (a class 2 dangerous felony)
    - Any counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, as alleged in Maricopa County Superior Court Cause No. CR2026-007610-001, which is currently pending before this Court, to wit:
        - Counts 1 through 10: Sexual Exploitation of a Minor (class 2 felonies and dangerous crimes against children).
- **13-751(F)(4)**: The defendant committed the offense in an especially heinous, cruel or depraved manner, to wit:
    - Cruelty: the murdered person's physical and/or mental and/or emotional pain or anguish prior to being murdered.
    - Heinous or depraved: the defendant intentionally inflicted violence clearly beyond what was necessary to kill the victim, and the defendant continued to inflict this violence after the defendant knew or should have known that the defendant had inflicted a fatal injury and/or the victim was dead.
        - The State intends to rely on testimony from the medical examiner – Dr. Derek Bumgarner – introduced during the guilt phase and/or aggravation phase.

- The State intends to rely on the testimony from a blood spatter expert – Commander Mike Meislish with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office – introduced during the guilt phase and/or aggravation phase.

EVIDENCE TO PROVE THE AGGRAVATING FACTORS:

A.R.S. §13-751(D) states, "Evidence that is admitted at the trial and that relates to any aggravating or mitigating circumstances shall be deemed admitted as evidence at a sentencing proceeding if the trier of fact considering that evidence is the same trier of fact that determined the defendant's guilt."

The State intends to call as witnesses and present as evidence in the aggravation phase, the same witnesses and evidence previously disclosed in the State's Notice of Disclosure and Request for Disclosure, filed on March 18, 2026, and all supplements thereto. For proof of prior convictions, a custodian of records from the Arizona Department of Corrections, a custodian of records from the Arizona Superior Court, and/or a latent fingerprint technician may be called to testify. In addition to the exhibits presented during the guilt phase, the State may introduce additional records of the defendant's prior convictions, parole, and Department of Corrections records, including sentencing minute entries.

The State further reserves the right to file a supplemental list of additional witnesses and/or evidence. Rebuttal witnesses and evidence to be disclosed upon defendant's disclosure of all mitigation evidence to be proffered.

Respectfully submitted November 13, 2026.

RACHEL H. MITCHELL
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY

BY: /s/



James H Baumann
Deputy County Attorney

Copy e-mailed/e-filed November 13, 2026, to:

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Judge of the Superior Court

The Honorable William Wingard
Criminal Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

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JB