

Jury convicts Sotelo-Gomez in slaying of Greenacres teen



Lannis Waters/Palm Beach Post

Alfredo Arturo Gomez-Sotelo is brought into Palm Beach County court Tuesday morning, the opening day of his murder trial. Sotelo was charged with murder in January 2009 saying he confessed he lured Maciel Martin Videla on the pretense that Sotelo would buy drugs from the Greenacres teen.



Damon Higgins/ Palm Beach Post

With assistance from his stepdaughter Silvia Videla, Oscar Sanchez makes a statement to the court.



Damon Higgins/ Palm Beach Post

As a jury deliberates Tuesday afternoon to determine whether Adriana Rodriguez is guilty of participating in the abduction and murder of 17-year-old Maciel Videla, Rodriguez sits quietly inside a Palm Beach County courtroom with her hands raised to her face.



Damon Higgins/ Palm Beach Post

Blanca Rodriguez (2nd from right) is consoled by her husband Robert Madrid in the Palm Beach County Courthouse Tuesday afternoon, after her daughter Adriana Rodriguez was found guilty in participating in the abduction and murder of 17-year-old Maciel Videla in December 2008.

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WEST PALM BEACH — WEST PALM BEACH – A jury today convicted Alfredo Sotelo-Gomez of kidnapping and first-degree murder in the death of 17-year-old Maciel Videla.

Sotelo-Gomez, 29, will now face a possible death-penalty, but the date for the trial's penalty phase was not immediately set following the verdict.

Sotelo-Gomez was accused of participating in the abduction and murder of Videla in December 2008. The body of the Greenacres teen was found in a canal in suburban Lantana. Sotelo-Gomez and others suspected Videla of snitching on their drug dealing.

A key witness who says he was at the scene testified he saw Sotelo-Gomez pin Videla's arms behind his back while another man, Diego "Yogi" Nunez, slit the young man's throat.

"Only thing I heard him gurgling a bit," testified Juan Urdialez flatly. Urdialez is an uncharged witness working with prosecutors.

Both Sotelo-Gomez, 29, and Videla's girlfriend Adriana Rodriguez, 20, were tried together with separate juries on charges of first-degree murder and kidnapping.

Rodriguez is accused of a lesser role in the murder, luring Videla to the men who would drive away with him from the El Toro Loco bar and kill him. Rodriguez's jury began deliberations late this morning.

A defense attorney for Sotelo-Gomez, Ann Perry, declined to comment on the verdict.

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