

f SHARE

TWEET

G+ SHARE

EMAIL

Hotel owner charged with murder in fatal Venice boardwalk shooting



EMBED </> MORE VIDEOS >

A Venice Beach hotel owner was charged Tuesday with the murder of a homeless man who was fatally shot on the boardwalk.

By Miriam Hernandez

Wednesday, September 02, 2015

VENICE, LOS ANGELES (KABC) -- A Venice Beach hotel owner was charged Tuesday with the murder of a homeless man who was fatally shot on the boardwalk.

for a bail amount that would allow for his release.

During his arraignment on Monday, the district attorney disclosed that the fatal shooting and the argument beforehand was captured by a video surveillance camera.

One man was wounded, another was killed steps outside of the Cadillac Hotel owned by Sinnathamby.

Witnesses among a group of homeless campers told investigators that the clash started with an argument and that the hotel owner directed an armed gunman to shoot.

The gunman fled the scene and Sinnathamby was arrested. His bail was set at \$5 million dollars.

In court, Judge Keith Schwartz barred cameras. Investigators have said that publicizing Sinnathamby's picture could jeopardize the case.

Deputy District Attorney Kristin Trutanich argued to keep the bail high at \$5 million dollars.

"He spent time with his wife in another country. We believe he is a flight risk with the charges he is facing," she said.

Judge Keith Schwartz said he needed to strike a balance. He noted that the 54-year-old immigrant has no criminal record and did not have the weapon in his hand, but was "somewhat directing the incident at the time of the shooting." Schwartz decided to reduced Sinnathamby's bail to \$1 million.

Sinnathamby's defense Attorney Alan Jackson raised an issue of race suggesting the high bail indicated a racial bias against his client because of the color of his skin and his last name.

Jackson called the bail amount "patently unconstitutional." He went on to say his client is a "U.S. citizen and holds a U.S. passport...he was not holding a weapon, he did not shoot anybody. He was there in a verbal dispute. Someone else walked up and shot someone. He did not have a gun. He did not shoot a gun."

Trutanich responded that she had viewed the video.

"He aided, abetted and directed," she said.

"He is presumed to be an aider and abettor," Jackson said. "This gentleman was at the wrong place at the wrong time and suddenly he gets this filing."

Sinnathamby's lawyer said he will be bailed out Tuesday night. His next court appearance is set for Oct. 14.

The gunman remains at large. The Los Angeles Police Department had no comment on any effort to locate him.

Related Topics:

shooting homeless man killed court case court Venice Los Angeles County

(Copyright ©2015 KABC-TV. All Rights Reserved.)

RECOMMENDED



Amtrak to lay off 550 employees in Riverside



No. 3 Notre Dame renews rivalry with struggling USC

Recommended by Outbrain | >

RELATED



Venice boardwalk shooting leaves 1 dead, 1 wounded

TRENDING



After more than 40 years, Santa to return to Anaheim



Elementary school principal appears in court after being charged in fatal...



'A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving' to air on ABC, full holiday schedule



Man found shot to death on balcony of Azusa home; authorities search for suspect

Powered by Headline | >

TOP STORIES



244K expected to travel through LAX day before Thanksgiving
Updated 2 hrs 16 mins ago



California spent more than \$600M fighting wildfires since June
Updated 35 mins ago



Bill could shield CA utility companies from wildfire costs
Updated 11 mins ago



Lettuce warning: 9 E. coli cases reported in LA County

LA Mission prepares for Thanksgiving celebration
Updated 43 mins ago

Man found shot to death on balcony of Azusa home
Updated 2 hrs 16 mins ago

Meet the women of the LAPD breaking the glass ceiling

Woolsey Fire: Damage tally increases as residents examine debris

Family mourns loss of young mother found dead in Commerce

Highland Park veterans monument in disrepair, vandalized on Veterans Day

VIDEO: Florida deputy shoots through windshield at armed suspect

SoCal Edison warning customers about scams

Ex-LA County lifeguard rescued by first responders while swimming

MORE NEWS >