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Austin County jurors handed down a 90 year sentence on November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Judge Steinhauser's 155<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court for a man convicted of stabbing his brother in Wallis in October of 2010.

Jurors took less than half an hour to convict Carlos Cardenas Hernandez, 54, of Aggravated Assault for stabbing Daniel Hernandez with a knife. Jurors took approximately the same amount of time to return the lengthy prison sentence.

Attorney Stephen Longoria represented the defendant, and District Attorney Travis Koehn and Assistant District Attorney Brandy Davidson presented the State's case.

Daniel Hernandez, 48, and a third brother, Henry Hernandez, 51, testified that on October 21, 2010, they were drinking together in Daniel's vehicle, parked in the driveway of the home they shared with Carlos in Wallis, Texas.

About 8:20 p.m., Carlos approached the driver's side of the vehicle where Daniel was seated, and stabbed Daniel in the neck and chest through the open car window. Daniel also suffered a severe cut to his hand while trying to wrest the knife from Carlos.

Daniel and Henry escaped in Daniel's vehicle and met police and EMS at the parking lot of the Wallis City Meat Market. Daniel was life-flighted and survived an eight hour emergency surgery to repair severe damage to his chest and throat.

Carlos fled in his vehicle and was found by witness John Miller less than a mile away after striking a guardrail.

Officers from the Wallis Police Department, including Steve Stokely, Jason Houston, and Carl Cearley investigated the incident.

After Carlos Hernandez was convicted, the State presented punishment evidence of his prior felony convictions for Burglary of a Habitation, Felony Theft, Bail Jumping and Attempted Sexual Assault. Hernandez also had convictions for DWI, Criminal Trespass, and Criminal Mischief.

"We appreciate the hard work of everyone involved in this case," Assistant District Attorney Brandy Davidson stated.

"Because of the jury's finding, Carlos Hernandez will not be eligible for parole until he is eighty-four years old."

District Attorney Travis Koehn expressed satisfaction with the verdict. "We asked the jury to sentence the defendant to at least 87 years to ensure he would never harm anyone else," Koehn said.

"The jury sentence of 90 years for Aggravated Assault sends a strong message that violent criminals won't be tolerated in Austin County," Koehn added.