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Robles Pleads Guilty in Murder of Pasadena Officer

(Houston, Tx) Sergio Robles, 26, pleaded guilty Thursday to shooting and killing Pasadena Police Officer Jesse Hamilton in August of 2009 and was sentenced to 40 years in prison. Officer Hamilton was responding to a family disturbance call on Friday, August 21, 2009, when he was shot in the head at close range by Robles.

Robles had a documented history of mental illness, including diagnoses of schizophrenia and bi-polar disorder. The initial call to the residence on the offense date requested a crisis intervention unit to deal with the defendant who was experiencing mental problems.

Robles was evaluated by multiple mental health experts, and reports conflicted on whether he was legally insane at the time of the offense. Prosecutors acknowledged the decision to offer Robles a plea bargain was a difficult one.

Assistant District Attorney Bill Hawkins stated, "The murder of Officer Jesse Hamilton was an unbelievable tragedy. His family members—and law enforcement family—have suffered a tremendous loss. We sincerely hope that with this plea Sergio Robles will spend the remainder of his natural life behind bars."

Robles will be transferred to the Texas Department of Corrections where he will begin serving his 40 year sentence. (END)

