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NEWS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: **March 20, 2014, 4:15 p.m.**
From: **Alex Gardner, District Attorney**
Details : **Ricardo Antonio Chaney**

Ricardo Antonio Chaney, recently reported to have killed a Mendocino County deputy before being shot and killed by police in California, was also involved in recent violent crimes in Oregon.

Chaney had been arrested by Eugene Police and lodged at the Lane County jail following a March 6, 2014 traffic stop. Evidence found during the stop caused police to arrest Chaney on a felony drug possession charge and a misdemeanor weapon charge, but Chaney was subsequently released from custody when the District Attorney's office failed to file charges.

The Lane County District Attorney's office lost the capacity to file most misdemeanor charges more than ten years ago. Additional layoffs in recent years have reduced DA staffing to the point where over 25% of the viable felony volume is no longer being charged. The March 6th charges against Chaney were not filed because they fell below the current triage standards and involved no violence or threat of violence.