Fugitive LAPD cop Henry Solis faces judge today

By City News Service DailyBulletin.com

LOS ANGELES — A former Los Angeles police officer and Marine accused of fatally shooting a man following a fistfight in a Pomona bar, then fleeting to Mexico, is scheduled to be arraigned today.

Henry Solis, 27, is charged with one count each of murder and assault with a firearm, along with an allegation that he personally discharged a handgun. He could face a potential life prison term if convicted.

He is being held in lieu of \$10 million bail.

Solis allegedly killed Salome Rodriguez Jr., 23, on March 13 while a probationary officer in the LAPD's Devonshire Division in the San Fernando Valley. He was fired by the department soon after becoming a fugitive.

Police said Solis and Rodriguez got into a fight in a bar, and the confrontation spilled into the street and ended with gunfire.

Solis then became the subject of an extensive manhunt. His father, Victor, drove Solis out of state and later told federal authorities that he had simply dropped his son off at a Texas bus stop. The pair, however, were caught on surveillance video walking across the Mexico border.

Solis was arrested May 26 by Mexican authorities in the border city of Juarez and deported to the United States.

Solis had been staying with relatives in the Juarez area prior to his arrest, FBI officials said. Special Agent Scott Garriola said Solis was "moved from one house to another" to help him avoid capture.

Victor Solis, 53, was convicted by a federal jury in El Paso of lying to the FBI about helping his son escape. He is facing up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

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