

YOLANDA ESCALONA-TREJO, 32

September 9, 2009 – Omaha, NE

Yolanda Escalona-Trejo was strangled by her estranged husband, Juan Melgoza-Ramirez.

The two fought on the morning of Yolanda's murder. Melgoza-Ramirez accused Yolanda of going to meet her boyfriend, the man she had been dating when he was deported to Mexico. In the fight, Yolanda bit her estranged husband's finger. Melgoza-Ramirez proceeded to choke Yolanda until they both fell to the floor. He left when he realized that Yolanda was struggling to breathe. When he returned, Yolanda was no longer breathing. Melgoza-Ramirez wrapped her body in a comforter, stuffed her under the bed, and wrote a note blaming the incident on her boyfriend. He was arrested two days later at a bus stop in Oklahoma City by immigration officers. He accepted responsibility for his wife's death and was sentenced to 50 years in prison. Yolanda was a mother of four. She would have celebrated her 32nd birthday on the day of her death.

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