

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO 8 YEARS IN PRISON FOR FORCIBLE SEX CRIME

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Judge Julie Culver sentenced Adrian Murietta, age 24, of Salinas, to a term of 8 years in state prison for one count of forcible sexual penetration by foreign object, and three counts of simple assault. The defendant will also be required to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

The victim attended a party at her friend's house on the night of the incident, and at that small gathering met her friend's brother, the defendant. Both consumed some alcohol over the course of the evening. The defendant made his sexual interest in the victim clear, and she told him that she was in a relationship and had a child, and was not interested in anything more than a friendship with him.

The defendant did not accept her rejection of his advances. He managed to isolate her from the others in the house and pushed her into his bedroom. The defendant sexually assaulted her in his room as she repeatedly told him "no." Others who were present at the party heard her exclamations of "no" over the music and through the closed bedroom door, and were able to enter the bedroom and end the assault.

The enraged defendant physically fought with the Good Samaritans. When he learned the police were on the way, the defendant fled the scene wearing only his boxer shorts. Police located the defendant a short time later at a relative's house.

The defendant received the maximum sentence allowed under California law and the charge is a "strike" under California's Three Strikes Law. He will be required to serve a minimum of 85% of his sentence before being eligible for parole because the crime is a violent felony.

The case was investigated by Monterey County District Attorney Investigator Christina Gunter and the Salinas Police Department.