

***NEWS RELEASE ***
**SALINAS MAN CONVICTED
OF ATTEMPTED MURDER**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Steve Ferguson, age 46, of Salinas, was convicted of [non premeditated] attempted murder, three counts of assault with a deadly weapon, elder abuse, and delaying a police officer during the lawful course of his duties in a three day court trial before Judge Andrew Liu. The court also found great bodily injury and use of weapon enhancements as true.

On the afternoon of November 17, 2014, Ferguson made various threats against the victim, his then 69 year old father, who he lived with at the time. As Ferguson made these threats he at one time held a knife to his father's throat and another time he held a fire place poker to his chest. As it got close to the evening hour Ferguson hit his father over the head with a hatchet because his father would not take a challenge to fight him. Ferguson later disposed of the hatchet as he ran from the house after injuring his father. The victim received outpatient treatment consisting of nine staples to his head and was released to the care of his other son that same evening. In addition to the head injury the victim had various scratches in the head area, bruising to both his arms and a gash on the right arm due to a struggle with his son earlier in the day.

The case was originally investigated by Police Officers Danny Garcia and Scott Sutton with the Salinas Police Department. District Attorney Investigator Jorge Gutierrez later assisted in the investigation.

Ferguson is scheduled to be sentenced on February 27, 2016 by Judge Andrew Liu. He faces a maximum sentence of thirteen years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.