

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

CASTROVILLE MAN FOUND GUILTY BY JURY OF NUMEROUS FIREARMS CHARGES

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Daniel Fuentes, age 44 of Castroville, was found guilty by a jury of personally discharging a firearm with gross negligence, being a felon in possession of a firearm, carrying a concealed firearm on his person and resisting arrest. Mr. Fuentes will be sentenced August 5, 2016 by Judge Pamela L. Butler. He faces a maximum sentence of 5 years 4 months in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

On March 19, 2016 at 1:45 a.m., Mr. Fuentes shot a semi-automatic pistol six times in or near two heavily populated nightclubs in downtown Castroville. Witnesses from the nightclubs reported the shots fired to 911 and assisted deputies in identifying Mr. Fuentes as the shooter. When deputies attempted contact with Mr. Fuentes who was arguing with patrons outside of the nightclub, he disobeyed their commands and ran away from them. Sheriff's deputies then deployed Argos, the Sheriff's K9 dog, in an attempt to detain him. As Mr. Fuentes struggled with Argos, deputies observed Mr. Fuentes' hands go towards a 9mm semi-automatic pistol concealed within his waist band that had previously been concealed by his shirt. The Department of Justice confirmed that the bullet casings left at the scene were shot by the firearm that Mr. Fuentes had been concealing.

The case was investigated by Monterey County Sheriff's Detective Sergeant Bryan Hoskins, Deputy Shaun Moran, Deputy Joshua Knutsen, Deputy Jose Sheppy and Monterey County District Attorney Investigator Erik Morris.