

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

MONTEREY MAN FOUND GUILTY OF HIT AND RUN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean Flippo announced today that on August 16, 2016, James Michel, age 69, was found guilty by jury of committing a hit and run in the City of Pacific Grove. The case was heard by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Stephanie Hulsey.

On August 12, 2015, at 5 A.M., the defendant was driving his automobile and collided with the victim's unoccupied parked car in Pacific Grove. The victim, close by and in her home, was awakened by the sound of the impact. The victim ran outside and saw Michel outside of his car, inspecting the damage to both cars. When the victim approached him and attempted to obtain his insurance information, Michel scoffed at her, returned to his car, and fled the scene. Both involved vehicles were totaled in the collision. The victim was able to take a picture of Michel's license plate, which she promptly provided to police.

Michel was sentenced by Judge Hulsey to three years of probation, ordered to pay full restitution to the victim, and will serve forty days in the county jail.

The case was investigated by Officer Daniel Deis of the Pacific Grove Police Department.

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