

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR DRUG SALES, POSSESSION OF DRUGS WHILE ARMED WITH A FIREARM

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Branden Harvey Morrison, age 35 of Salinas, was sentenced to five years and eight months in state prison for possession of a loaded firearm with a controlled substance and possession of methamphetamine for sales.

In 2014, Morrison pleaded guilty to possessing methamphetamine for sales in one case, and possessing a controlled substance and a loaded firearm in another case. He was given a grant of formal probation, but the judge suspended a five-year, eight-month prison term, which would be executed if Morrison violated his probation.

On September 19, 2016, a Salinas Police Department officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle being driven by Morrison. On top of the rear seat was a pair of brass knuckles with a spring-loaded blade. Morrison was arrested and ultimately admitted to violating his probation by possessing the brass knuckles. Morrison was sentenced to serve the previously suspended prison term by Monterey Superior Court Judge Carrie M. Panetta.

Morrison's cases were investigated by the Salinas Police Department.