

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

OAKLAND MAN CONVICTED OF ASSAULT WITH SEMIAUTOMATIC FIREARM, AND ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR SHOOTING AT SALINAS MOTEL

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Rickey Paul Murray, age 39 of Oakland, was found guilty by a jury of 12 felony offenses arising from a September shooting in front of a Salinas motel.

On September 30, 2016, Salinas police officers responded to the Continental Motel on North Main Street after multiple 911 callers reported gunshots exchanged in the parking lot. Surveillance video captured two males, one of whom was identified as Murray, shooting firearms at one another in front of the motel lobby. Bullets fired between the men hit the outside of the main office, parked vehicles, and the outside of motel rooms. Murray, a resident of the motel, was seen on video running into his room after the shooting. He refused to come out of the room for 15 minutes while officers shouted his name and room number over a loudspeaker. When he finally surrendered, he was wearing a different shirt than he was on the surveillance video, and his firearm was missing.

During the execution of a search warrant for Murray's room, officers found large amounts of cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine packaged for individual sale, as well as the shirt that Murray was wearing on the surveillance video. They also discovered a fully-loaded, semiautomatic firearm with an obliterated serial number hidden inside a bag of cat food. Murray was prohibited by law from owning or possessing firearms due to previous convictions for domestic violence, vandalism, and battery on a correctional officer.

At trial, Murray was convicted of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, discharging a firearm at an occupied building, discharging a firearm at an unoccupied vehicle, grossly negligent discharge of a firearm, possession for sale of cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin, possession of a controlled substance while armed, and being a felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition.

Murray faces a maximum sentence of 27 years and four months in prison when he is sentenced on March 21. Judge Carrie M. Panetta presided over the trial.

The case was investigated by Salinas Police Department with the assistance of the Monterey County District Attorney's Office.