

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

REPEAT DUI OFFENDER FOUND GUILTY BY JURY

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CONTACT: Brian T. Jones, Deputy District Attorney
(831) 796-6048**

Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on April 11, 2017, Francisco Napoles Medina of Watsonville, age 54, was found guilty by a jury of felony driving under the influence of alcohol with three prior DUI convictions, two of which were felonies. The jury also found true that Mr. Medina has served 4 prior prison terms for previous DUI convictions. Mr. Medina will be sentenced May 10, 2017 by the Honorable Pamela L. Butler. He faces a maximum sentence of 7 years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. According to court and other official law enforcement records the defendant has 12 prior DUI convictions.

The jury found that on July 23, 2016 officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop on Mr. Medina because he was swerving on Alta Street in the City of Gonzales. When asked by officers Mr. Medina refused to submit to field sobriety tests, a breath test as well as a blood test. Gonzales Police Officer Castillo authored a search warrant for the defendant's blood which was signed and approved by the Honorable Efren Iglesia. Despite Mr. Medina's repeated attempts at refusing all chemical tests the search warrant allowed officers to collect Mr. Medina's blood at Natividad Medical Center. Mr. Medina's blood alcohol level was .17 four hours after driving.

This case was investigated by Gonzales Police Department Officer Cesar Castillo. This case was presented by members of the District Attorney's Office specialized DUI Vertical Prosecution Unit. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.