

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

MARINA MAN RECEIVES PRISON SENTENCE FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN TRUMPETS AND SCUBA GEAR

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on May 30 Marina resident David Soliz, Jr., age 42, was sentenced to five years in prison following his guilty plea to possession of stolen property.

On August 17, 2016, the victim was contacted by a music store in Santa Cruz County. The store requested the victim's assistance with appraising musical equipment a customer, later identified as the defendant, brought in to sell. When the victim arrived to appraise the trumpets, he was shocked to discover they were his own property, which he had last seen in his storage unit in Salinas. The storage unit manager was able to check the facility's gate access log and open door log, and found that the defendant was the only person present at the time of the theft.

Salinas police officers responded to the storage facility, and found Soliz inside his own unit. A search of the unit revealed stolen scuba equipment from another victim, as well as a methamphetamine smoking pipe. The defendant initially denied knowledge of the stolen property, but later changed his story and said that he had either found it or bought it at a flea market.

Monterey County Superior Court Judge Robert A. Burlison sentenced Soliz to five years in state prison. Soliz's sentence was enhanced due to a 2012 strike conviction for dissuading a witness, and a 1998 prior prison commitment for possession of stolen property. In addition to the prison sentence, Soliz was ordered to pay restitution to the victims.

The case was investigated by Salinas Police Officer David Crabill, Jr.

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