

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR EVADING POLICE**

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August 24, 2017

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Robin Duffy, Deputy District Attorney  
(831) 755-5412**

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District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Salinas resident Ramon Villalobos, age 23, was sentenced to two years in prison after pleading guilty to evading police officers, driving under the influence of methamphetamine, and possession of a controlled substance, and then violating the terms and conditions of his probation.

On August 22, 2015, at approximately 1:27am, a deputy attempted to stop Villalobos' Honda Accord for speeding in Salinas. Villalobos failed to yield, and instead began a high-speed pursuit down North Main Street. During the pursuit, Villalobos weaved around several vehicles, traveled up to 100mph, ran through numerous intersections at approximately eighty miles per hour, and ultimately collided with a traffic signal pole, causing it to fall and render his vehicle inoperable. Villalobos then fled from his vehicle on foot. Deputies deployed a Taser twice to detain Villalobos. Once in custody, Villalobos told the deputies the "VGS" tattoo on his chest stood for "Very Good Student," although the arresting deputy knew that in fact represented a faction of a Sureno criminal street gang.

On October 5, 2015, Judge Mark Hayes sentenced Villalobos to felony probation.

On August 24, 2017, Monterey County Superior Court Judge Robert A. Burlison sentenced Villalobos to two years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for violating the terms and conditions of his probation by failing to abstain from the use of alcohol and controlled substances, failing to participate in a counseling program, absconding/failing to report to probation, failing to obey all laws, and failing to abstain from obtaining any new gang tattoos.

This case was investigated by Deputy Scott Davis from the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.

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