

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **SALINAS FELON TO RECEIVE 10 YEARS FOR GUN, DRUGS, EVADING, AND ASSAULTING AN OFFICER**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: September 8, 2017**

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Salinas resident Vidal Alvarez, age 33, entered pleas of no contest to possessing a firearm as a felon, possessing methamphetamine for sale, evading a peace officer, and assaulting a peace officer. Alvarez also admitted having a prior strike conviction. Alvarez was convicted for robbery in Monterey County in 2003. That conviction constituted a strike under the Three Strikes Law. It also prohibited Alvarez from possessing firearms.

On April 14, 2014, Salinas police officers stopped Alvarez in his vehicle. The officers found a couple bags of methamphetamine and a large amount of cash. The officers wrote a search warrant for Alvarez's home, which revealed a large quantity of methamphetamine, a loaded gun, ammunition, scales, and text messages indicating Alvarez was selling.

On April 9, 2016, while out on bail, deputies from the Monterey County Sheriff's Office saw Alvarez in his car. They recognized him and knew he had warrants out for his arrest. When the deputies tried to contact Alvarez, he attempted to run them over. Alvarez was able to escape after evading the police.

On April 12, 2016 a Salinas police officer saw Alvarez driving his vehicle. The officer recognized Alvarez and knew he was wanted for the April 9<sup>th</sup> incident. Alvarez led the officer on a dangerous high speed chase through Salinas. After crashing he tried to run from his vehicle but was ultimately apprehended.

Alvarez will be sentenced by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Andrew Liu on October 20, 2017 to a total term of 10 years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.