

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SERIAL BURGLAR SENTENCED TO PRISON

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Salinas resident Joshua Schneider, age 41, was sentenced yesterday to three years and eight months in prison after entering pleas of no contest to committing residential and commercial burglaries in the city of Salinas.

On October 31, 2016, Schneider broke into a Salinas apartment complex in the middle of the night. He entered an on-site storage shed by kicking down the door, and then stole items including a key machine, air compressor, 10 gallons of paint, 7 drills, 2-3 bags of tools, and a paint sprayer. The manager called the Salinas Police Department when she discovered the theft the next morning. An anonymous citizen identified Schneider as the suspect. Salinas Police Detective Byron Gansen contacted Schneider at his residence a few days later. Schneider denied knowledge of the theft, however changed his story and confessed after believing Detective Gansen's ruse that he was identified on a surveillance video. Schneider then showed officers the stolen key machine, which he kept in his garage. Schneider was arrested, charged, and then bailed out of custody while his case was pending.

Several months later, Salinas police were notified of a series of burglaries that occurred at the Wash Multi-Family Laundry Systems from January 2017 through April 2017. The business's security cameras showed Schneider - now easily identifiable by officers - committing the thefts. When officers went to his residence they found hundreds of quarters, shaved keys, and two methamphetamine pipes. Schneider was arrested, and when asked about his involvement, told detectives "Boom, you got me."

Monterey County Superior Court Judge Robert A. Burlison sentenced Schneider to three years and eight months in prison, and notified him that one of the convictions is a "strike" offense under California's Three Strikes Law. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the victims.

These cases were investigated by Salinas Police Detective Byron Gansen and Officers John Richardson, Jordy Urrutia, and Yolanda Rocha.

Schneider would not have been held accountable for his crimes without the assistance of the anonymous civilian who provided his identity. Schneider was sent to prison, the victims achieved justice, and the community is safer as a result of that witness's cooperation.