

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

GILROY MAN SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS 4 MONTHS PRISON FOR COLLISION THAT KILLED 25-YEAR-OLD WOMAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Drew Elliott Trantow-Pearson, age 32 and a resident of Gilroy, was sentenced today for the DUI collision which killed Aracely Tamayo Rangel. Trantow-Pearson was sentenced to 5 years 4 months in California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for driving under the influence causing injury and enhancements for causing great bodily injury to the victim, Aracely Tamayo Rangel and for causing injury to multiple victims. The defendant will have to serve 85 percent of his sentence before being eligible for parole.

On February 28, 2016, the defendant was driving westbound on Highway 198 south of Pine Valley Road. The defendant swerved into the victim's lane and collided with the Tamayo family vehicle. Mr. Tamayo was driving the vehicle and suffered fractured ribs and other minor injuries. Their one year old child, who had been secured in the rear of the vehicle in his car seat, had minor injuries. Aracely Tamayo, who was in the front passenger seat, died at the scene.

The defendant was found under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol level of .21, almost three times the legal limit.

Aracely Tamayo Rangel, age 25, was a resident of King City. She was a flight attendant and enjoyed time riding horses and her time with her family including her husband and baby boy. Today's sentencing was attended by numerous members of the Rangel family.

California Highway Patrol Officer Jeremiah Cross, of the King City Office, The California Highway Patrol Multidisciplinary Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) and Monterey County District Attorney Investigator Terri Edwards conducted the investigation and arrest in this incident.

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.