

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

CASTROVILLE MAN FOUND GUILTY OF ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Joseph Olea, age 31, a resident of Castroville, pled no contest to four felony charges, including felon in possession of a firearm, and felon in possession of ammunition. Olea is facing a 4-year state prison sentence. The case was heard by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Carrie M. Panetta.

On September 22, 2016 at approximately 4:00am, members of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office SWAT Team, Investigations Bureau and Enforcement Bureau executed a search warrant at a residence located in Castroville. Olea saw the deputies and immediately tried to run out the back door of the attached garage. Olea was holding a black object in his hand as he was running. When the deputies challenged him, Olea turned around and ran back into the house. The deputies found Olea lying on top of a plastic bag of ammunition. The deputies also found a black .357 revolver handgun underneath the couch, within Olea's reach. There were two young children present in the living room when Olea was taken into custody. Additionally, there were five other adults located at the house, and the deputies found another handgun in one of the bedrooms. An additional loaded handgun was found in the rafters of the garage, where Olea slept.

The case was investigated by Deputies Jesse Pinon, Rafael Garcia, Jason Smith, Javier Galvan, David Vargas and Nicholas Kennedy.