

# **\* NEWS RELEASE \***

## **SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IN PRISON FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND STALKING**

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**December 6, 2017**

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on December 5, 2017, Abel Juan Perez, age 19, was sentenced to five years in prison for domestic violence and stalking.

On July 31, 2016, Perez went to the victim's house, whom he was dating at the time. He told her to get into his car and that later he would return her to her residence. If she failed to obey his demand, he told her he would harm her and her family. Out of fear, the victim got into the car. He then told her he was going to take her out of town. During the drive, he slapped her on the left side of her face, grabbed her face and shook her head. Perez's actions scared the victim so much that she jumped out of the vehicle while it was traveling approximately 55 mph. After this incident, Perez called Jane Doe 132 times, leaving numerous threatening voicemails and text messages. He also attempted to dissuade her from reporting the crime to the police.

Ultimately, Perez was arrested and on March 28, 2017, he pled guilty to criminal threats, dissuading a witness, and false imprisonment. He was placed on felony probation in May 2017 and a criminal protective order was issued prohibiting him from having any contact with the victim.

In June, less than one month after his sentencing, Perez began to contact the victim despite the no contact order. He sent her numerous threatening text messages and left notes and flowers on her car. This again put the victim in fear for her safety. He was eventually rearrested and in November 2017 he pled guilty to charges of stalking.

Monterey County Superior Court Judge Julie R. Culver sentenced Perez to five years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

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