

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR VIOLATING HIS PROBATION

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced that Gabriel Cruz-Gonzales, age 31, a resident of Salinas, was sentenced to two years in state prison for violating his probation.

On October 4, 2016, at around 8:52 p.m., a reporting party observed Gabriel Cruz-Gonzales, passed out behind the wheel of his vehicle which was parked at 640 E. Boronda in Salinas. There was a one-and-a-half year old child, later determined to be Cruz-Gonzales' daughter, in the backseat of the vehicle. Upon arriving on scene, officers from the Salinas Police Department located a bundle of heroin on the dashboard in the vehicle. Cruz-Gonzales pled guilty to committing felony child abuse on September 8, 2017, and was sentenced to four years of formal probation and 364 days in jail. He was also required to participate in any substance abuse program his probation officer deemed necessary.

Cruz-Gonzales began attending the San Jose Salvation Army Residential Treatment Program on September 29, 2017. On November 30, 2017, Cruz-Gonzales was discharged from the program for assaulting another beneficiary, which was a violation of his formal probation.