

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

PROBATION OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO FELONY HIT AND RUN RESULTING IN DEATH AND DUI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CONTACT: Scott Lynch
Deputy District Attorney
(831) 759-6680**

Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Sonia Cano, age 36, a resident of Salinas and a Probation Officer for Monterey County, pled guilty to hit and run resulting in death, a felony, and driving under the influence of alcohol, a misdemeanor.

On December 10, 2017, Cano and several friends visited multiple restaurants throughout Salinas. The last restaurant that Cano visited was located on North Main Street. Around 7:00 pm, Cano and her friends left the restaurant with Cano driving her vehicle. Just after 7:00 pm, as the defendant drove down North Main Street, she struck the victim with her car. The victim was a pedestrian obstructing traffic as he was jaywalking across North Main Street. The victim died as a result of the collision. Following the collision, Cano fled the area without providing assistance to the victim.

At around 10:00 pm, Cano called Salinas Police Department to turn herself in. Salinas Police Officers went to Cano's residence and arrested her. Upon contacting Cano, Salinas Police Officers observed objective signs of alcohol intoxication.

Salinas Police Department Detectives Justin Heckman and Gabriel Gonzalez conducted the investigation in this incident. Judge Andrew Liu will sentence Cano on March 7, 2018 at 8:45 a.m. in Department 2 to a grant of felony probation which carries up to one year of incarceration in the county jail.