

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS FELON SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF 2 OUNCES OF HEROIN AND A FIREARM

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Matthew Lee Loggins, Jr., age 36, was sentenced to five years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation by Monterey County Superior Court Judge Carrie M. Panetta.

On December 15, 2016, Salinas Police Department Violence Suppression Unit officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle Loggins was driving. The officers searched the vehicle and located a fully loaded, stolen semi-automatic firearm that was hidden inside the rear passenger-side seat of the vehicle. Officers also located 59.3 grams of heroin hidden inside the rear driver-side seat, near the gas tank sending unit, and more than \$1,500 in cash.

On February 8, 2018, Loggins entered pleas of no contest to one felony count of possession of a controlled substance with a firearm and one felony count of felon in possession of a firearm. Loggins also admitted a prior strike conviction for a robbery.

The case was investigated by California Highway Patrol Officer Robert Padilla, and Salinas Police Department's Violence Suppression Unit Sergeant George Lauricella and Officer Zachary Dunagan.