

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN 2012 KILLING OF BROTHER-IN-LAW ON CHRISTMAS EVE

June 6, 2018

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on June 5 former Salinas resident Francisco Javier Navarro, age 39, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and other charges in the killing of his brother-in-law during a family Christmas Eve party in 2012.

On December 24, 2012, after an argument with his wife, Navarro shot and killed the victim, 30-year-old Salvador Garcia, Jr. Following the shooting, Navarro fled to Mexico, where he lived under an alias for three and a half years. Navarro was detained and arrested while attempting to cross the United States-Mexico border on April 10, 2016.

Navarro pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter, two counts of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, and carrying a concealed firearm on the person. He also pleaded guilty to mayhem, assault with force likely to cause great bodily injury, and battery arising out of multiple fights in the Monterey County Jail while he awaited trial. He will be sentenced to 30 years and 4 months in prison on July 6, 2018.

Navarro's cases were investigated by Salinas Police Department, the District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigation, and the Monterey County Sheriff's Office. Navarro was identified and arrested by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security's San Diego Field Office.