

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SEXUAL OFFENDER SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN YEARS IN STATE PRISON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that yesterday, Marveil Williams, age 38, was sentenced to 15 years in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the August 2016 sexual assault which occurred to two women riding a MST bus to Northridge Mall in Salinas. The defendant pleaded no contest on May 1, 2018 to the crimes of attempted forcible oral copulation and assault with the intent to commit a sex crime.

On August 23, 2016, the defendant boarded a public MST bus on north Main Street in Salinas and sat next to a forty-five-year-old woman. During a conversation with the woman, the defendant began to grab at her chest area. The woman alerted the bus driver who intervened and told the man to sit elsewhere. The bus came to a stop at the Northridge Mall. The driver of the bus stepped out of the bus and the man approached the woman with his pants at his knees, penis exposed and attempted to push her head down towards his pelvic area. Hearing the woman's scream, a man seated at the front of the bus pulled the defendant off the woman and yelled for the bus driver. Before the bus driver could call Salinas Police Department, the defendant grabbed the buttocks of another woman as she disembarked the bus.

Williams, a transient, was convicted in 2009 in Santa Monica, California of attempted carjacking. That prior conviction constitutes a "strike" and doubled the seven- year term for the forcible oral copulation and assault to commit a sex crime in the current case. Because of an additional year for a prison commitment served on the prior attempted carjacking, Judge Panetta sentenced the defendant to a total term of fifteen years in state prison.

The case was investigated by the Salinas Police Department patrol division and District Attorney Investigator Benjamin Draeger.

The Salinas Police Department and the Monterey County District Attorney's Office would like to extend their gratitude to the "Good Samaritan" on the bus that day who came to the aide of the victim.