

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN PLEADS GUILTY IN THE JUNE 2015 MURDER OF HIS SUPERVISOR

July 3, 2018

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Geronimo Hernandez, age 29 of Salinas, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for killing his work supervisor outside a Salinas restaurant more than three years ago.

On June 19, 2015, while drinking inside a restaurant on Williams Road, Hernandez got into an argument with the victim, 43-year-old Antonio Gonzalez-Alejo. Gonzalez-Alejo was Hernandez's supervisor at a farm labor company based in Gonzales. Witnesses observed the men arguing, but no one could tell what they were arguing about.

Hernandez and Gonzalez-Alejo went outside of the restaurant, where they continued to argue. Hernandez then drew a knife and stabbed Gonzalez-Alejo seven times, killing him. Hernandez fled the scene on foot and ran to a friend's house, where he confessed to the stabbing and provided the friend with the knife he had used. The friend called 911 and gave the weapon to police.

On August 21, Monterey Superior Court Judge Carrie M. Panetta will sentence Hernandez to 15 years to life in prison.

The case was investigated by Salinas Police Department Detectives Kenneth Schwener and Rodolfo Roman.