

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN CONVICTED OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN JAIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that Orion Martinez, a resident of Salinas was found guilty by Judge Andrew Liu of multiple counts of sexual assault including forcible digital penetration in concert and attempted sodomy in concert.

The incident occurred in the Monterey County Jail on August 11, 2017. Several inmates surrounded John Doe and while they held him down, inserted their fingers into the victim's anus. One of the inmates attempted to sodomize the victim but it was not clear if he was able to penetrate the victim. John Doe reported the incident despite pressure from other inmates not to report what happened.

Deandre Silas, John Calderon and Manuel Martinez were also charged and are pending sentencing after agreeing pleading guilty.

A sentencing date has been set for August 29, 2018 for Martinez. Under an agreement in which each side gave up their right to a jury trial, the defendant faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison. The defendant has a prior conviction under California Three Strikes Law.

The case was investigated by the Monterey County Sheriff's Office and District Attorney Investigator Oliver Minnig. The victim was supported by a victim advocate and Odie, the Monterey County District Attorney's Office support dog.