

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

MAN FOUND GUILTY OF LEADING MARINA POLICE ON HIGH SPEED CHASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

08/14/2018

**CONTACT: Scott Lynch
Deputy District Attorney
(831) 759-6680**

Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that William Louis Delacruz, age 46 of Soledad, was found guilty by a Monterey County jury of evading a peace officer with willful and wanton disregard for the safety of persons and property; evading a peace officer by driving in a direction opposite to traffic, resisting a peace officer, and being an unlicensed driver. Monterey County Superior Court Judge Andrew G. Liu presided over the trial.

On December 20, 2017, Marina Police Officer Juan Magana attempted a traffic stop on a white Cadillac Escalade. The Escalade vehicle failed to pull over and evaded by traveling in excess of 95 miles per hour passing other motorists by driving in opposing traffic's lanes and on the shoulder.

After a five-minute pursuit, Officer Magana lost sight of the Escalade when it pulled into a residential neighborhood in the City of Salinas. Moments later, Officer Magana observed the Escalade parked on the side of the road, and observed the defendant running away from the area. A short foot pursuit occurred and eventually the defendant was found hiding in a bush. The vehicle's registered owner indicated that he had lent the Cadillac Escalade to the defendant.

The defendant will be sentenced by Judge Andrew G. Liu on October 5, 2018 and faces up to four years in prison.

This case was investigated by Officer Juan Magana of the Marina Police Department with assistance from members of the Monterey County Sheriff's Office and Salinas Police Department.