

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

SALINAS MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR RAPE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Monterey County District Attorney Dean D. Flippo announced today that on October 26, Ralph Bobadilla, age 35, was sentenced to six years in prison for raping a coworker.

The incident occurred at the defendant's home in Salinas on August 5, 2017. The victim was an acquaintance from his work and attended a party with him. She returned to his home and asked to spend a few minutes to sober up before driving home. The defendant began to make sexual advances and the victim attempted to leave. The defendant then sexually assaulted her as she tried to retrieve her purse. He pulled down her pants and raped her before she was able to leave.

The defendant told the police that he had no memory of the details surrounding the sexual assault and denied having any sexual contact with the victim. At trial, the defendant claimed that he had consensual sexual intercourse with Jane Doe and admitted that he lied to the police on the night of the incident. Jane Doe testified consistently with her statement to the police on the night of the rape and denied that she had consensual sex with the defendant. The jury found the defendant guilty of rape and penetration by a foreign object.

At the sentencing hearing, the victim's impact statement was read to the court by Deputy District Attorney David Rabow. A copy of a letter from a high school classmate of the defendant, alleging a similar sexual assault by the defendant, was presented to court for its consideration in deciding the appropriate sentence to impose in this case. The court found Mr. Bobadilla was not a credible witness and then sentenced him to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The case was investigated by the Salinas Police Department and Detective Byron Gansen. Jane Doe was supported by advocates from the Victim Witness Office and Odie, one of two comfort dogs at the District Attorney's Office available to assist victims.