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PRESS RELEASE

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DRUNK DRIVER IN CARMEL CONVICTED

People v. Catherine Diane Larsen; 18CR001503

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that on February 6, 2019, after a two-day jury trial, Catherine Diane Larsen, age 55, was found guilty of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol of .08% or greater and driving with a license suspended due to a prior DUI conviction. There was also a finding that she suffered a prior conviction for driving under the influence.

On February 8, 2018 at 3:30 a.m., Larsen was seen by police officers in a Starbucks parking lot, passed out in the driver's seat of her vehicle with her seatbelt on. The vehicle was parked horizontally across handicap parking spaces with the engine running and the lights on. Carmel Police Department Officer Greg Johnson made contact with Larsen and immediately smelled a strong odor of alcoholic beverage. California Highway Patrol Officer Adam McDaniel arrived to conduct a DUI investigation. Larsen admitted she was driving her vehicle and got lost when looking for her hotel in Carmel. She denied drinking alcohol ten separate times to law enforcement before a breath test measured her blood alcohol content at 0.10%.

Larsen was sentenced to 5 years probation and 60 days custody in Monterey County jail. The case was heard by Judge Mark Hood.

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