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PRESS RELEASE

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CANNABIS BUSINESS OWNER SENTENCED FOR FAILING TO CARRY WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

People v. Luis Solis; 18CR010362

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Luis Solis, a 36-year-old Seaside resident who owns a cannabis delivery service in Salinas, was sentenced to 3 years of probation for failing to carry workers' compensation insurance. Judge Mark Hood also ordered Solis to pay a \$2,500 fine. Solis faces up to 1-year in county jail and additional fines if he violates his probation.

Solis owns Compassionate Bay Delivery, Inc., and employs as many as 8 employees. Since January 1, 2018, Solis' company has carried state and city licenses to deliver recreational and medicinal cannabis. Since he has employees, California law requires that he carry workers' compensation insurance. On June 29, 2018, Monterey County District Attorney Investigators asked Solis to provide verification that he had workers' compensation insurance. He admitted that he did not carry such insurance, which is a criminal violation of Labor Code section 3700.5. The District Attorney filed criminal charges on October 29, 2018. Subsequent to the filing of criminal charges Solis obtained workers compensation insurance.

The case was investigated by District Attorney Investigators George Costa and Martin Sanchez.

Under California criminal law, business owners need to be aware that California law requires all employers to secure workers' compensation insurance for their employees. Workers' compensation insurance ensures employees injured on the job have adequate medical coverage and other benefits.