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PRESS RELEASE

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MONTEREY MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR ASSAULT ON OFFICERS

People v Andrew Jones; Case No. 17CR006388

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Andrew Lee Jones, age 41, was sentenced to 26 years and 8 months in prison for his firearm assault on Monterey police officers.

On the night of December 17, 2017, Monterey police officers were dispatched to a report of an inebriated man who had a knife and who was believed to be trying to kill himself. The reporting parties were Jones's parents, who also notified dispatch that Jones might have a firearm. Officers Kyle Gentry, Bryan Kruse, and Sergeant Frank Russo responded to the call for help.

When the officers arrived on scene, they searched the outside of the apartment complex. When the officers again gathered at their patrol cars, Officer Kruse noticed movement in a dark corner of the complex, behind a large sign advertising the location. Officer Kruse saw that Jones was crouched down and he called out to Jones; ordering him to stand up. Instead, Jones fired a round from a .454 Casull handgun and then began to exchange gunfire with the officers. The gunfire stopped when Jones was hit in the shoulder with a bullet.

When the officers approached Jones, he was extremely apologetic and stated that he "was having a bad day" and that he wanted to kill himself.

Prior to the shooting, he had given himself a mohawk haircut and had sent his father a text message that the purpose of his life was to take down the government.

Jones was treated for his gunshot wound at Natividad Medical Center. The involved officers did not suffer any gunshot wounds.

Today, Judge Pamela L. Butler sentenced Jones to 26 years and 8 months in prison for assault with a firearm on Officers Kruse, Gentry, and Sergeant Russo.

Steven Guidi was the leading District Attorney Investigator for this case.