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PRESS RELEASE

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SALINAS MAN PLEADS TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND MAYHEM

People v. Donovan Johnson

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that 29-year-old Donovan Johnson pled no contest to four felony counts of residential burglary, mayhem, false imprisonment, and inflicting corporal injury on the mother of his children. Johnson also admitted causing great bodily injury and using a weapon during the assault. Two of his convictions constitute violent strikes.

On November 12, 2018, Johnson and the victim had an argument over the victim's refusal to be in a relationship with him. Johnson became upset and requested entry into the victim's house to talk about the status of their relationship. The victim, however, locked the door and refused to let him in. Johnson jumped the fence, broke into the house, and began to punch and assault the victim in front of their children. Johnson demanded that the victim get in the car and leave with him, but the victim repeatedly refused to go. At one point during the assault, Johnson took out a box-cutter and slashed the victim in her legs, face and back. The victim collapsed on the floor and began to bleed profusely. Johnson picked her up, placed her in his car and drove her to the Natividad Medical Center for emergency medical treatment. In route to the hospital, a Salinas Police Department vehicle attempted to conduct a traffic stop, but Johnson failed to yield. His failure to yield resulted in a police pursuit which ended near the Natividad Medical Center. Johnson admitted to assaulting the victim and asked for forgiveness. The victim suffered a deep, deforming cut on her face, damage to a nerve in her leg, as well as several abrasions and deep-tissue lacerations on her legs and back.

For this crime, Johnson is facing a 12 to 15-year sentence at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The sentencing hearing is set to take place on July 23, 2019 in Department 4 before Judge Carrie M. Panetta.