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PRESS RELEASE

August 8, 2019

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JURY CONVICTS MOSS LANDING MAN FOR THEFTS FROM FIELD LABORERS

People v. Jesse Anthony Sanchez 19CR004707

SALINAS, California- Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine M. Pacioni announced today that Jesse Anthony Sanchez, age 54, of Moss Landing, was convicted of one count of attempted auto burglary, one count of theft, one count of loitering, and one count of battery. Judge Mark E. Hood presided.

On March 2, 2019, Sanchez went to a strawberry farm just north of Castroville. When the farm laborers worked their way into the fields, far from their parking area, the defendant drove onto the property and began to rummage through their vehicles. Sanchez taunted the laborers by shouting at them from the parking area and broke the door handles off a vehicle he was unable to gain access to. He fled the scene before the laborers were able to return from the fields to confront him.

On May 2, 2019, Sanchez returned to the same farm and removed several items of property from parked vehicles. On this occasion, he was caught in the act by the vehicle owners closer to the parked cars than he realized. Sanchez threw a full can of soda – stolen from one of the victims' lunch – at the worker that confronted him, striking the worker in the shoulder. Sanchez then abandoned his own vehicle and fled the farm on foot before being contacted and arrested by Monterey County Sheriff's Deputies.

Sanchez will be sentenced on September 12, 2019 and faces a maximum sentence of 4 years in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The case was investigated by the Monterey County Sheriff's Office.