



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
David P. Harris

Chief Deputies
Annette Rees
Douglas K. Raynaud
Marlisa Ferreira
Stephen R. Robinson

Bureau of Investigation
Lt. David Hutchinson
Lt. Froilan Mariscal

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 26, 2018
Re: Luis Manuel Melo
DUI Prison Sentence

For More Information Contact:

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-6909

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Luis Manuel Melo, age 59, of Hilmar, has been convicted of felony driving under the influence of alcohol and sentenced to state prison. Deputy District Attorney Joel Dunn prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On October 28, 2016, at approximately 11:40 p.m., Melo was seen trying to back out of a parking space at 110 Main St. in Turlock. Melo tried to back up twice, but each time he collided with the car parked next to him. A witness saw Melo's driving and called 911.

When officers contacted him, Melo showed obvious signs of intoxication. He was arrested and charged with felony driving under the influence due to his having been previously convicted for the same crime. A chemical test revealed his blood alcohol level to be .21%, almost three times the legal limit.

On March 23, 2018 Melo pled no contest before Judge Shawn Bessey to the felony charge of driving with a blood alcohol level of .08% or higher and admitted a special allegation for having a blood alcohol level of .15% or higher. Judge Bessey then sentenced Melo to four years in state prison.

This is Melo's sixth felony driving under the influence conviction in the last 12 years.

The public is reminded to call 911 or contact law enforcement whenever they see someone driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

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