



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: April 13, 2018
Re: Traves Oscar Krause
Felony Conviction

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Traves Oscar Krause, age 32 of Modesto, was convicted on April 5, 2018, of Vehicular Manslaughter with Gross Negligence and Driving under the Influence of Alcohol Causing Injury. Deputy District Attorney Bianca Yip prosecuted the case for the People.

At 10:52 p.m. on March 13, 2017, Krause was driving his vehicle at over 100 miles per hour on Carpenter Road in Modesto when he slammed into another car driven by Mayra Rangel at the intersection of Carpenter and Hatch. The collision killed Ms. Rangel's eleven-year-old son and seriously injured her husband and nine-year-old daughter. Ms. Rangel suffered minor physical injuries.

Krause ran away from the crash and called 911 to report his vehicle had been stolen. Modesto Police officers found him at his home shortly thereafter. An investigation and chemical blood test confirmed that Krause was under the influence of methamphetamine at the time and that he was driving 126 miles per hour five seconds before the crash.

An hour and a half prior to the collision, Krause received a text message from his girlfriend begging him to not drive. Four minutes before impact, he texted back a photograph of his vehicle's speedometer reading 130 mph.

On April 3, 2018, Krause pled no contest to the felony charge of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence, admitted personally inflicting great bodily injury, and fleeing the scene after committing the vehicular manslaughter. He also pled to driving under the influence causing injury with an enhancement for causing great bodily injury to two people, as well as an enhancement for injuring more than one person. Finally, Krause admitted being previously convicted for driving under the influence in 2015.

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Sentencing is set for May 8, 2018, when Krause will be sentenced to eighteen years in state prison. The great bodily injury enhancement to the DUI causing injury charge and vehicular manslaughter charges constitute two separate “Strikes” under California’s Three Strikes Law that may be used to enhance any future felony convictions Krause receives after being released from prison.

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