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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 5, 2018
Re: Patrick William Smith
Felony conviction and prison sentence

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Patrick William Smith, age 39, of Modesto, has been convicted by jury of assault with a firearm and negligent discharge of a firearm and sentenced to state prison.

On July 7, 2014, at around 11:00 p.m., Smith, angry with the victim over a prior dispute several months before, armed himself with a handgun and went to the victim's home. Upon arriving he found the victim sitting in a vehicle. Smith shot the front left tire of the victim's vehicle, then leaned through the open driver's window and struck the victim in the face. As he did so, the gun went off, breaking out the back windshield. The victim suffered a gash to his face and four displaced teeth.

Smith was arrested and charged with the crime. After a four-day jury trial, a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury convicted Smith on December 8, 2017 of assault with a firearm along with an enhancement for personally using a gun and negligent discharge of a firearm.

On Tuesday, January 30, 2018, Judge Dawna Frenchie Reeves sentenced Smith to a term of 6 years and 8 months in state prison. His convictions will also count as "strikes" under California's "Three Strikes" law which may be used to increase any punishment if Smith were to reoffend after being released from prison.

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