



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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CORRECTED **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

Date: October 9, 2019
Re: Stephen Patrick Tisdale

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Stephen Patrick Tisdale, age 20, of Modesto, was convicted on September 26, 2019, after pleading guilty to two counts of murder using a firearm, four counts of attempted murder using a firearm, two counts of participating in a criminal street gang, child endangerment, auto theft and home invasion. Chief Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On September 12, 2018, at approximately 9 p.m., Tisdale went to the Stop n' Shop on Yosemite Boulevard in Modesto. Tisdale intended to enter the store to commit a robbery, but it had already closed for the evening. When the clerk refused to open the locked front glass doors, Tisdale shot through them at the clerk, hitting him in his hand, and ran away. All of this was recorded on the store's video surveillance system.

On October 9, 2018, at approximately 3 p.m., in the area of El Posado Avenue in Modesto, Tisdale shot a bicyclist causing great bodily injury. Tisdale had intended to kill the victim in retaliation for a drug dispute between the victim and the Norteno criminal street gang. Tisdale then fled the area.

On October 21, 2018, at approximately 8 p.m., Tisdale drove to the area of Yosemite Boulevard and El Vista Avenue in Modesto. Tisdale entered the home of 37-year-old James Chisum and shot him once in the chest with a shotgun while Chisum was holding his 18-month-old grandson. Chisum died from his wounds, but the child was not injured. Tisdale believed the victim was a "drop-out" from the Norteno criminal street gang.

Later that same evening, near the Sunrise Village Mobile Home Park on South 7th Street in Modesto, Tisdale shot at a 53-year-old male and his 57-year-old girlfriend while they were walking home. Tisdale again believed both victims were "drop-outs" from the Norteno criminal street gang. The female was hit and suffered great bodily injury. Tisdale then fled the area.

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On October 31, 2018, Tisdale went to a home in the 3700 block of Coffee Road in Modesto where he shot and killed 58-year-old Sameer Sogul. This murder was also done for the benefit of the Norteno criminal street gang. Tisdale then fled the area.

On December 4, 2018, at around 9:30 p.m. in the area of South Abbie Street in Empire, Tisdale was seen driving a gray 2003 BMW 530 that had been reported stolen the previous day.

Modesto Police detectives determined that Tisdale was responsible for this crime spree and arrested him on December 7, 2018. At the time of his arrest, Tisdale was on felony probation for domestic violence and assault with a deadly weapon.

Judge Carrie Stephens scheduled sentencing for November 21, 2019 when she will hear victim impact statements. Tisdale faces up to 285 years-to-life in state prison. Unfortunately, Tisdale was under 25 years old at the time of his crimes and, under recent changes to state law, he will become eligible for parole after serving 25 years.

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(Previous version incorrectly listed victim name as defendant name)

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