



# Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release**

Date: November 1, 2021  
Re: William Beck Usilton III  
Voluntary Manslaughter Conviction

### **For More Information Contact:**

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that William Beck Usilton III, age 30, of Oakdale was sentenced to 21 years in prison on Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. Deputy District Attorney Tracy Griffin prosecuted the case for the People.

On February 10, 2019, at approximately 2:30 a.m., Usilton shot and killed 25-year-old Cody Sorensen during an argument. He was convicted of voluntary manslaughter and personal use of a firearm at the conclusion of a two-week jury trial.

During a sentencing hearing on October 18, 2021 before Judge Linda McFadden, several relatives of Cody Sorensen told the court how Sorensen's death affected them.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Judge McFadden sentenced Usilton to the maximum sentence of 21 years in state prison.

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