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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: June 9, 2023
Re: Anthony Camargo
Felony Jury Trial Conviction

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Modesto, California- Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Anthony Camargo, age 37, of Modesto was convicted on May 26, 2023, of felony firearms violations after a five day jury trial. Deputy District Attorney Vita Palazuelos prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On September 4, 2021, Camargo got into a brief verbal altercation with three separate individuals at a market on Maze Boulevard in Modesto. After leaving the market, Camargo shot at all three people, hitting one in the leg. That victim was transported to the hospital with serious injuries but survived.

Modesto police officers who responded to the incident launched a thorough investigation to identify and apprehend the perpetrator. Homicide Detective Joshua Grant, with the assistance of the Stanislaus County Probation Department, identified Camargo as the shooter. When Camargo was arrested and interviewed, he denied responsibility. After being confronted with surveillance footage of him being at the scene of the crime, Camargo told Detective Grant, "Prove it."

On May 22, 2023, a jury trial was held before Judge Carrie Stephens in Department 4 of the Stanislaus County Superior Court. Prosecutor Palazuelos presented citizen, law enforcement and expert witnesses who testified as to what happened that day and the evidence obtained which pointed to Camargo's guilt. After deliberations, the jurors convicted Camargo of three felony counts of assault with a firearm, one for each victim, along with enhancements in each count for personal use of a firearm and an enhancement for personally inflicting great bodily injury for the victim who was shot in the leg. Camargo was also convicted of being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm and being a prohibited person in possession of ammunition.

In an interim, separate hearing without jurors present, Judge Stephens found true an enhancement that Camargo had been out on bail from a prior felony case at the time of the shooting. When the jurors reconvened, Prosecutor Palazuelos presented them further evidence relating to aggravating factors to be used by the Judge at sentencing. After further deliberations, the jurors found true that

Camargo had engaged in violent conduct indicating a serious danger to society, that he had prior criminal convictions that were either numerous or of increasing seriousness; that he served a prior prison term; and that he was on probation or parole at the time of the crime.

Camargo has an extensive Stanislaus County criminal history over the last decade that included prior felony convictions for domestic violence, assault with a deadly weapon, assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, grand theft from a person, possession of a firearm and possession of ammunition by a convicted felon. He was also previously convicted of felony domestic violence and driving under the influence out of Santa Clara County.

Camargo is scheduled to return to court for sentencing on August 1, 2023, in Department 4 before Judge Stephens. He faces a potential term of up to 27 years in state prison.

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