

## Office of the District Attorney **Stanislaus County**

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## PRESS RELEASE

## **For Immediate Release**

**For More Information Contact:** 

Date: August 15, 2019 Re: Daniel Laurens Kahler

Felony convictions and prison sentence

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Daniel Laurens Kahler, age 36, of Turlock, was convicted on July 30, 2019 of two counts of residential burglary and sentenced to state prison. Deputy District Attorney Patrick Hogan prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

In January of 2017, Kahler took items from a store in Turlock. When confronted by a store employee, he threatened the employee with a box cutter, elevating the crime from simple theft to a felony robbery.

On March 26, 2018, as part of a plea agreement, Kahler pled no contest to the robbery, which counted as a strike under California's "Three Strikes" law and could be used to double his punishment for any future felony conviction he might receive. The court ordered him to surrender in June to begin serving a 240-day jail sentence.

In April of 2018, prior to his surrender date, Kahler was employed by a contractor doing work on a home in Oakdale. While working there, Kahler took cash and jewelry valued at over \$3,000.00 from inside the home over multiple days. When the family discovered things missing and reported the theft, Kahler was confronted by the general contractor. He admitted taking the jewelry and selling it at a pawn shop. He was arrested and charged with residential burglary and violating his felony probation for robbery. He posted bail on the new charges and was released from custody.

Kahler then failed to appear in court on July 23, 2018, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. At his next court hearing on July 27, he was in jail custody. A few months later he once again posted bail and was released into the community. Four days later, he was caught breaking into a neighbor's home in Turlock. The neighbor, a senior citizen, found Kahler in her bedroom closet and immediately called law enforcement. After a brief standoff with Turlock Police officers, he was taken into custody. Kahler admitted breaking into the home through an unlocked window and apologized to the officers asking them to give him a "second chance."

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On July 30, 2019, Kahler pled no contest to committing the two residential burglaries and admitted his previous "strike" conviction for robbery. He was then sentenced by Judge Thomas Zeff to a total of 12 years and eight months in state prison on all his cases. Due to the nature of these crimes, Kahler must serve a minimum of 60% of his time in actual prison custody.

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