



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
Dave Harris

Chief Deputies
Doug Raynaud

Marlisa Ferreira

Chief Investigator
Kevin Bertalotto

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: 3/10/2016
Re: Knudson, James, Michael

For More Information Contact:

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-5519

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that James Michael Knudson, age 28, of Modesto, California, was sentenced to four years in state prison for felony driving under the influence.

On April 5, 2015, a Modesto Police Officer stopped Knudson for speeding. Knudson smelled of alcohol, admitted he had been drinking and failed several field sobriety tests. A chemical test showed 0.16/0.18% BAC in his system, twice the legal limit of .08%.

On March 10, 2016, Knudson pled no contest to felony driving with a blood alcohol over 0.08%. He admitted having three prior drunk driving convictions from 2006, 2008, and 2012. Knudson also admitted having been previously convicted in 2013 of assault with a firearm, a "strike" under California's Three Strikes Law that could be used to double his sentence in the current case..

Pursuant to a plea agreement, Judge Linda McFadden sentenced Knudson to four years in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney Bianca Yip prosecuted the case for the People. Her position is funded by a grant provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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