

## Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## PRESS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

Voluntary manslaughter conviction and

**For More Information Contact:** 

Date: January 29, 2019

Re: Maurilio Gomez Vasquez

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
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prison sentence

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Maurilio Gomez Vasquez, age 32, of Modesto, has been sentenced to 28 years and 4 months in state prison for the April 29, 2008 killing of Clarence "Buddy" Mason in Modesto, the shooting of Shawn Tenbrink and the maiming of an inmate in the county jail. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Laugero prosecuted the case for the People.

On April 29, 2008, Vasquez fell off his bicycle while riding in the Airport District. Clarence "Buddy" Mason and Shawn Tenbrink laughed at Vasquez's mishap, angering him. After threatening to go get his "Norteno homies," Vasquez left. He came back to the scene with a handgun and shot both of them. Mason died and Tenbrink was seriously wounded. Vasquez fled to Mexico and was located there in 2012. In 2013, he was extradited back to the United States for prosecution.

In 2014, after being returned to the Stanislaus County jail, Vasquez assisted other Norteno criminal street gang inmates with assaulting another inmate. That person lost an eye as a result of the attack.

On December 11, 2018, Vasquez pleaded no contest to voluntary manslaughter, assault with a firearm, and admitted using a firearm as well as a gang enhancement in the first crime. Vasquez also pleaded no contest to mayhem and admitted a gang enhancement for the 2014 jail assault. These convictions count as serious and violent "strike" offenses under California's "Three Strikes" Law. Judge Nancy Ashley sentenced Vasquez to 28 years and 4 months in state prison.

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