COUNTY OF FRESNO

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

LISA A. SMITTCAMP
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 26, 2016

DANIEL WILSON FOUND GUILTY OF HATE CRIME ASSAULT

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office is pleased to announce that today, October 26, 2016, Daniel Coronel Wilson was found guilty of assaulting Amrik Singh Bal last December.

Today, a Fresno County jury found Mr. Wilson guilty of Assault by Means Likely to Produce Great Bodily Injury, and also found true an allegation that the assault constituted a Hate Crime that was committed in concert with another person.

The December 26, 2015 assault, which was captured on video, brought a wave of fear to the local Sikh community. Mr. Wilson, along with a co-participant, were captured on video first beating Mr. Bal with their fists, then hitting him with a car. It was argued that Mr. Bal was targeted because he wore a turban and a robe, and the attackers believed that he was "terrorist." Mr. Bal was left unconscious on the roadway on Brunswick Avenue west of Highway 99.

Mr. Wilson faces a potential sentence of up to eight (8) years in custody when he is sentenced on December 2, 2016, in Department 72 of the Fresno County Superior Court. After today's verdict, the Honorable Judge Conklin ordered that Mr. Wilson be remanded into the custody of the Fresno County Jail, where he will remain until his sentencing.

The District Attorney's Office would like to thank the numerous Investigators and F.B.I. Agents who worked on this case, with a special thanks to lead investigator Detective Haywood Irving from the Fresno Police Department.

The Media may email <u>FCDAMedia@co.fresno.ca.us</u> or contact Administrative Assistant Leslie Gillespie at (559) 600-4442 with questions.

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