

## COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp District Attorney

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 18, 2017

## BRANDON SUTTER CONVICTED OF ATTEMPTED MURDER FOR SHOOTING VICTIM IN THE BACK

Brandon Carl Sutter (30, of Fresno) was found guilty today of attempted murder for shooting a man in the back, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office has announced.

A Fresno County Jury deliberated for an hour and a half today before finding Brandon Sutter guilty of the willful, deliberate, and premeditated attempted murder of Francisco Martinez. On August 15, 2017, Mr. Sutter fired a homemade 12 gauge shotgun into the back of Mr. Martinez, paralyzing him from the waist down. The jury also found Mr. Sutter guilty of being a felon in possession of a firearm, as well as the related enhancements for using a firearm and causing great bodily injury during the commission of the attempted murder.

As a result of the convictions, Mr. Sutter faces a sentence of up to 32 years to life in prison when he is sentenced on January 18, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in Department 74 of the Fresno County Superior Court. However, upon reaching age 60 and after serving 25 years, Mr. Sutter will be eligible for release under the Elderly Parole Program.

This case was prosecuted by DDA Andrew Janz of the Office's Violent Crimes Unit, with the assistance of Investigator Ronnie Sims. Detective Jose Diaz with the Fresno Sheriff's Office investigated the case.

At the time of commission of these crimes, Mr. Sutter was on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) for a felony conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm in 2013.

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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