

## COUNTY OF FRESNO

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## 42 Charged in Fresneck, Aryan Brotherhood Criminal Street Gang Conspiracies

Forty-two individuals were charged today with 141 felony counts in two separate conspiracy cases arising from an 11-month investigation into the Aryan Brotherhood and the Fresneck white supremacist street gang it controls, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office has announced.

In *People v. Derek Smith et al*, thirty-one individuals associated with the Fresnecks and allied white supremacist gangs, including Skinheads and Peckerwoods, were charged with 105 separate felony offenses in a street gang conspiracy directed by Aryan Brotherhood members and associates from prison. Significant crimes charged as part of the conspiracy include:

- Kidnapping with the Discharge of a Firearm committed by two Fresneck gang members on a gang associate as discipline for not complying with gang rules.
- Arson of a Vehicle with a Molotov cocktail committed by three Fresneck gang members under the direction of an Aryan Brotherhood associate in prison.
- Carjacking committed by three Fresneck gang members under the direction of an Aryan Brotherhood associate in prison.
- Conspiracy to Transport Methamphetamine in excess of 1 kilogram under the direction of an Aryan Brotherhood associate in prison.
- Unemployment insurance fraud committed for the benefit of the gang.

In *People v. Andy Gilley et al*, eleven individuals associated with the Fresneck street gang were charged with 36 separate felony offenses including Conspiracy to Transport Methamphetamine in excess of 10 kilograms for the benefit of the Fresneck criminal street gang and Conspiracy to Transport Heroin in excess of 1 kilogram for the benefit of the Fresneck criminal street gang.

Arraignment on both cases is scheduled for Monday, November 23 in the Fresno Superior Court.

The media may email FCDAMedia@fresnocountyca.gov with questions.

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