



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

7/14/17

**TULARE MAN SENTENCED FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CRIME  
AGAINST POLICE OFFICER**

Today in Department 6 of the Tulare County Superior Court, Visalia Division, Judge Gary Paden sentenced Demorris Gray, age 24, of Tulare, to 32 months in prison for domestic violence and committing a crime against a police officer.

On May 15, 2017, Gray pleaded no contest to one felony count of resisting an executive officer and one misdemeanor count of corporal injury to a spouse / cohabitant. Gray also admitted a prior felony conviction of assault with a deadly weapon (knife) in 2013. In that case, Gray put a knife to his friend's throat and then poked him multiple times in the ribcage leaving a small abrasion.

In the early morning hours of November 21, 2016, Tulare Police Department officers arrived at an apartment for a report of domestic violence. Observing Gray near the apartment, officers commanded him to stop. Gray fled, but was apprehended after a brief struggle. While being placed in the patrol car, Gray bit the leg of an officer causing him to bleed. The officer was treated at a local hospital and released.

During the arrest, another officer investigated the domestic violence complaint. It was determined that Gray began arguing with his girlfriend while she was lying on her bed. Gray punched her in the face and twice on her thigh. He then pushed her off the bed. Law enforcement was called by the victim's sister, and Gray left the apartment.

This is the first conviction and sentencing of a defendant secured by the District Attorney's Crimes against Police Officers Unit since the unit was formed in May of 2017.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Eric Wang of the Crimes against Police Officers Unit and investigated by the Tulare Police Department.

*Media inquiries can be directed to the Office of the District Attorney, County of Tulare  
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