

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF TULARE Tim Ward, District Attorney

Tim Wald, District Attorne

PRESS RELEASE

1/24/18

FARMERSVILLE MAN CONVICTED OF ASSAULT, THIRD STRIKE

On January 22, 2018, in Department 10 of the Tulare County Superior Court, Visalia Division, Judge Kathryn Montejano presiding, a jury found Frank Luna, age 49, of Farmersville, guilty of assault with a deadly weapon. On January 23, 2018, the Court also found true the special allegations that Luna has been previously convicted of two prior strikes for robbery in 1999, and that Luna has four prior prison commitments for robbery, possession of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance for sale, and petty theft with priors.

In the afternoon of October 31, 2015, Luna and his brother argued loudly in the front yard of his brother's house in Farmersville, drawing the attention of other family members and a family friend across the street. Luna angrily told the friend that he better be careful out in the streets and departed on his bicycle. A short time later, Luna returned to the friend and accused him of talking to his girlfriend. Drawing a knife from his pocket, Luna thrust the knife at the friend, coming within inches of his chest. Luna again departed on his bicycle.

Sentencing is scheduled for February 13, 2018, in Superior Court where Luna faces 39 years-to-life in prison.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Aaron Corey and investigated by Kristine Barklow of the Farmersville Police Department.

Media inquiries can be directed to the Office of the District Attorney, County of Tulare Assistant District Attorney Dave Alavezos (559) 636-5494