



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

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Two Plead in Drive-by Shooting in South Oroville

In Butte County Superior Court today, two Oroville men admitted to their participation in a drive-by shooting in South Oroville last year. Garrett Berry, 25, pled today to a felony count of Shooting at an Inhabited Residence. Billy Phianemanh, 25, pled to a felony count of Unlawfully Carrying a Loaded Firearm.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey stated that on June 11, 2020, Oroville Police received 911 calls reporting a young male, who had been let out of a maroon-colored SUV, was standing outside of and shooting toward a residence in the 3400 block of Roseben Avenue. The man then got back in the passenger side of the SUV, which fled the area.

Within minutes after the shooting, Oroville Police officers located the maroon-colored SUV less than five blocks away outside of Berry's residence. Phianemanh was found in the driver's seat of the vehicle registered to a family member. Berry was detained just outside his residence. After searching the vehicle pursuant to a search warrant, officers located a semi-automatic handgun with a loaded magazine under the driver's seat. No other guns were found. The gun came back as stolen. Phianemanh's fingerprints were later found on the weapon. Evidence indicated after the shooting Berry had passed the gun to Phianemanh.

Back at the scene of the shooting, officers discovered the Roseben Avenue residence was struck four times and the residence was occupied at the time. Fired casings found outside the Roseben residence were matched to the recovered gun. Bullets penetrated the door of the residence, but luckily hit no one inside. Ramsey said the shooting was not random and officers suspected a gang motivation for the shooting.

Ramsey said, "I commend the alert citizens for calling in the incident and the quick response by law enforcement, both of which prevented this from escalating to further violence."

Berry faces seven years in state prison for this case when he is sentenced on June 2, 2021. Judge Jesus Rodriguez today also found Berry in violation of a prior misdemeanor DUI probation and in violation of parole for a prior felony domestic violence case. He remains in custody in the Butte County Jail with no bail.

Phianemanh faces a maximum of 3 years in county jail for his case when he is sentenced on June 30, 2021. He has no previous record and remains out of custody pending his sentencing.

