



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

6/6/17

**DINUBA MAN CONVICTED OF DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE**

On June 2, 2017, in Department 12 of the Tulare County Superior Court, Visalia Division, Judge Nathan Leedy presiding, a Tulare County jury convicted Robert Vargas, age 45, of Dinuba, of one count of driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage and one count of driving with a .08 BAC or higher. Each count is a misdemeanor. This is Vargas' fourth DUI conviction since 1992.

On December 16, 2016, Vargas got in to a verbal altercation with a witness, whose car Vargas almost collided with in a Dinuba store parking lot. When the witness asked if he had been drinking, Vargas sped away in his truck. Following him, the witness spoke with police dispatch outside of Vargas' residence. Officers responded and located Vargas in his bedroom where he displayed signs of intoxication. Upon further investigation, Vargas was found to possess a blood alcohol concentration of 0.34%.

Vargas was sentenced after the verdict to 180 days in county jail, 4 years of probation, and must attend an 18-month DUI class.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Nadya Hannah and investigated by the Dinuba Police Department.

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