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Assault Weapon Dispute Earns Man a 10-year Ban on Firearm Possession

San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott announced today that defendant Mario Granillo, 52, faces a 10-year prohibition on owning firearms after pleading guilty to making criminal threats (PC422) and unlawful possession of an assault weapon (PC30605).

On October 24, in San Diego's Southcrest neighborhood, Granillo got into an argument with another man over speakers, while the two were standing next to Granillo's vehicle. The two scuffled, and Granillo threatened to shoot the victim. Granillo's loaded AR-style pistol fell out of the car during the scuffle. The victim then pinned Granillo to ground while waiting for police to arrive.

Police later recovered Granillo's gun from the gutter beside his car, and he was taken into custody. The firearm had no serial number.

"Mr. Granillo demonstrated a clear lack of concern for human life by carrying an assault weapon and threatening to use it against the victim," said City Attorney Elliott. "The fact he cannot legally own firearms for the next decade – and will be subject to police searches at any time – should come as a relief to all San Diegans."

At today's hearing, Granillo was sentenced to time served and probation. He was also required to forfeit his pistol and is prohibited from owning another firearm for 10 years. The Court also required Granillo to

get treatment for mental health and/or substance abuse issues, to stay away from the victim and to allow authorities to search his person and property at any time and without a warrant.

Elliott thanked Assistant City Attorney Paige Folkman and Deputy City Attorney Nicole Crosby for their outstanding efforts to bring the suspect to justice while keeping dangerous assault weapons out of our community.

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