

C. DAVID EYSTER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

PAUL D. SEQUEIRA
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

MIKE GENIELLA
PUBLIC INFORMATION

707-391-1019

geniellam@co.mendocino.ca.us



COURTHOUSE
P.O. Box 1000
Ukiah, CA 95482

COAST OFFICE
700 S. Franklin St.
Ft. Bragg, CA 95437

**OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO**

PRESS RELEASE

January 23, 2012

Jury convicts Fort Bragg woman of assault, battery in ax attack

A Fort Bragg woman has been convicted by a Mendocino County Superior Court jury of felony assault and battery charges for attacking two people with an ax during what authorities early last year described as a gang-related altercation outside a coast recreation center.

Maricruz Alvarez-Carrillo, 22, was found guilty last Friday at the end of a two-week trial in Ukiah. The jury deliberated a total of seven hours. Superior Court Judge Ann Moorman set sentencing of Alvarez-Carrillo for 1:30 p.m. Feb. 24.

District Attorney David Eyster on Monday called the jury's conviction of Alvarez-Carrillo "a big win in a difficult gang-related case."

Prosecutor Tim Stoen called 10 witnesses during the trial, including attack victims Alissa Colberg, age 18 at the time, and Richie Olstad, then 16. Colberg is scarred on her face and chest as a result of the ax blows, according to Stoen.

Witnesses testified that on Jan. 28, 2011, Alvarez-Carrillo was driving a vehicle in Fort Bragg when she and a boyfriend encountered members of a competing gang.

Colberg admitted she smashed in a back window of the Alvarez-Carrillo vehicle during a melee that followed. But she and other witnesses testified that Alvarez-Carrillo, by then armed with the ax, first chased Olstad and then turned her attack on Colberg who had come to her young friend's aid. Colberg ended up with serious gashes to her chest and face, and was rushed to Mendocino Coast District Hospital to be treated.

Prosecutor Stoen said Fort Bragg Police Chief Scott Mayberry assisted in the prosecution of the case by personally reviewing hundreds of pages of documents.

DA Eyster said the public should know “how much we appreciate the terrific work Police Chief Mayberry and his officers did in this case.”

“The outcome is a major step towards eliminating gang threats in the community of Fort Bragg,” said Eyster.