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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: December 11, 2002

Re: **Sentencing of Lorenzo Fosselman**

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Lorenzo Fosselman, Jr., age 24, of San Jose, California, was sentenced to 70 years to life in prison by the Honorable Judge Hurl Johnson. On September 27, 2002, a jury had convicted Fosselman of carjacking and felony evading of a police officer. Deputy District Attorney Dawna Frenchie prosecuted the case, and appeared at the sentencing hearing for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on April 14, 2002 in the city of Modesto. Fosselman forced a young woman from a car at gunpoint in the parking lot of a convenience store on Mc Henry Blvd. A short time later, officers spotted the stolen vehicle traveling northbound on Highway 99 near Hammett Road. The vehicle exited the freeway and led officers on a short pursuit before crashing into a telephone pole in the city of Ripon. Officers located Fosselman hiding in the backyard of a residence not far from the car.

Fosselman was sentenced under the Three Strikes Law due to his prior criminal history which included serious or violent felony convictions for attempted robbery and grand theft from a person.