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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: March 30, 2006
Re: Fabian Fong Acosta

Contact: Birgit Fladager
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Modesto, California – The Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office announced today that Fabian Fong Acosta, age 38, of Modesto, was sentenced on March 29, 2006, to 9 months in jail and was ordered to do a parenting class as a condition of his four years of felony probation by Judge Lacy. A jury previously found him guilty of Child Endangerment, Attempting to Dissuade a Victim from Testifying, and Resisting Arrest on March 1, 2006. Deputy District Attorney Carolyn Matzger prosecuted the case and Sheriff's Department deputies Joshua Clayton, Joshua Humble, and David Vargas conducted the investigation.

The case arose out of events that occurred on May 5, 2005, in the city of Modesto. On that date, Acosta got into an argument with his wife. The victim, his then-17-year-old daughter, tried to protect her sister as Acosta attempted to take her out of the house. As the victim reached for her 2 year-old sister, the defendant punched the victim in the face. This was witnessed by Sheriff's Department deputies. As the deputies tried to take the defendant into custody, he struggled with them.

On September 19, 2005, the victim came to court to testify in the preliminary hearing. While she was waiting in the hallway outside the courtroom, the defendant approached her, got within inches of her face, and spoke with her using a very aggressive voice. He told her to drop the charges, to not say anything, and to refuse to answer questions. Although the defendant tried to intimidate her, the victim held firm and testified at both the preliminary hearing and the trial.

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