



OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Stanislaus County  
Courthouse  
800 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 200  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Mailing: P. O. Box 442, Modesto, CA 95353  
Phone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

Carol Shipley  
Assistant District Attorney  
Chief Deputy District Attorneys

Jerry Begen  
Steve Casey  
Birgit Fladager  
John Goold  
Dave Harris

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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: June 7, 2006

Re: Ricky Lynn Newton

Contact: Carol Shipley,

Assistant District Attorney

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County Assistant District Attorney Carol Shipley announced today that Ricky Lynn Newton, age 47, of Ceres, was convicted after a jury returned verdicts of guilty on charges of manufacturing methamphetamine, possession of precursors to manufacture methamphetamine, transportation of methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine. The jury returned a verdict on June 5, 2005, after a trial that stretched over 2 weeks. Senior Deputy District Attorney Alan Cassidy prosecuted the case.

The trial arose out of events which occurred on December 6, 2003, and March 23, 2005 in the city of Modesto.

In the first incident, the Officer Doug Ridenour Jr. of the Modesto Police Department stopped the vehicle that the defendant was driving for having false registration tags. Based on the defendant's parole status, his truck was searched and a portable methamphetamine lab was found in the tool box in the bed of the truck.

In the second incident, Officer Dale Lingerfelt of the Modesto Police Department stopped the vehicle the defendant was driving for failure to stop at a stop sign and speeding. A search of the defendant and his passenger revealed they were holding approximately one-half ounce of methamphetamine.

Newton faces a maximum of twenty years in state prison.

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