PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: December 21, 2006
Re: Rodrigo Orozco

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that on December 20, 2006, Rodrigo Orozco, age 39, of Snelling, was found unsuitable for parole at a hearing of the State Board of Prison Terms at California State Prison, Solano. Deputy District Attorney Carolyn Matzger appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on the callous, calculated, and dispassionate nature of the crime, the inmate’s failure to remain discipline-free while incarcerated, and his failure to take advantage of beneficial self-help programs while in prison.

In 1983, Orozco and Manuel Barcello entered the home of 78 year-old George Shafer. They bound and gagged him, ransacked his house, and stole two guns. Mr. Shafer was found deceased the next day with his hands bound behind his back, his legs tied and ligatures around his mouth. He also had multiple broken ribs. He was found to have died of asphyxia by strangulation. Rodrigo Orozco was convicted of first degree murder. He is serving a prison sentence of 25 years to life. He has previously been denied parole five times.

The Board of Prison Terms denied parole for a period of one year. One daughter of the victim, spoke in support of releasing Orozco on parole. Another daughter sent a letter opposing parole.

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