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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: **February 5, 2007**
Re: **Barlett & Norsworthy sentencing**

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that James Bartlett, age 42, and Gregory Norsworthy, age 39, both of Keyes, were finally sentenced almost 18 months after a Stanislaus County jury convicted them last July 15th, 2005, of various crimes that left victim Kevin Bruce Qualls paralyzed from the neck down. Judge Loretta Murphy-Begen presided over the trial and sentencing which was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Tom Brennan.

On June 13th, 2002 Bartlett and Norsworthy kidnapped Tommy Patterson and forced him to drive them to Kevin Quall's location. After Norsworthy shot Qualls in the neck, Bartlett walked through the crime scene without a shirt, exposing his multiple "White Supremacist" tattoos in an attempt to intimidate the witnesses to the shooting from cooperating with the police. Bartlett had been released from prison less than two days before the crimes and Norsworthy got out of prison only 4 months earlier. Qualls condition as a result of the shooting requires that he receive constant medical care, twenty-four hours a day.

At trial, Modesto Police Detective Al Brocchini testified as a gang expert for the prosecution and told the jury that Bartlett and Norsworthy were both active participants in a White Supremacist criminal street gang.

On July 15th, 2005 a jury convicted Bartlett of kidnapping, two counts of witness intimidation, conspiracy to commit assault with a firearm, false imprisonment, and active participation in a White Supremist criminal street gang. That same jury convicted Norsworthy of conspiracy to commit assault with a firearm, false imprisonment, assault with a firearm, kidnapping, and active participation in a "White Supremacist" criminal street gang.

Today, Judge Begen sentenced both men to state prison. Bartlett received a determinate term of 33 years and 8 months, while Norsworthy was sentenced to a term of 158 years to life in state prison. Norswothy's sentence was increased because of his two prior serious or violent felony convictions. Bartlett's sentence was increased due to his having only one prior serious or violent felony conviction.

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