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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 18, 2008
Re: Ramon Avalos, case #1245172

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Ramon Avalos, age 27, of Patterson, was sentenced to four years in prison following his plea to felony child endangerment and evading a police officer on September 15, 2008. Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on May 10, 2008 on Highway 99 in Stanislaus County. CHP officers observed Avalos's vehicle making unsafe lane changes and speeding on the freeway which caused them to follow his car as he exited the freeway. Avalos initially pulled over for the traffic stop, however, when officers approached the car on foot, Avalos suddenly pulled away. Unknown to the officers at that moment, Avalos was a parolee-at-large and had told his girlfriend, who was a passenger in the car, that he "wasn't going back to prison." Also in the car was an 11 year old girl. Torres's girlfriend was taking care of her at the time. Avalos proceeded to lead officers on a dangerous chase, including running red lights, speeding, and passing between two cars traveling in adjacent lanes. After Avalos was unable to negotiate a turn due to his speed, the car stopped and Avalos took off on foot. Officers quickly apprehended him.

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