



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354
Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney
Carol Shipley
Assistant District Attorney
Chief Deputy District Attorneys
Jerry Begen
Steve Casey
Alan Cassidy
Dave Harris

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: 8-19-08
Re: Jorge Cruz #1242532

For More Information Contact:

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney
Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that former Turlock Police Officer Jorge Cruz pled no contest today to three felony charges of sodomy, oral copulation, and sexual intercourse. Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on June 20, 2007 at a motel in the city of Modesto and involved a 17 year old female. The District Attorney's Office agreed to drop two other charged counts in exchange for the three felony pleas. The dismissed charges included a misdemeanor involving a 16 year old female, and a separate felony charge of dissuading a witness. That witness was actually an Investigator for the District Attorney's Office, posing as a friend of the victim. No sentence was agreed upon between the defendant and the District Attorney's Office. Cruz faces a maximum term of four years and four months in state prison. The charges which Cruz pled to, based on the age of the victim, do not mandate registration as a sex offender. However, the court has discretion to order registration if the Court believes the facts warrant that penalty.

Sentencing is scheduled for September 8, 2008 in Department 3.

###