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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: 11-3-08
Re: William Jesse Irving, Jr. – Child Molester
found guilty by jury faces 13 years and 8
months in state prison

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that William Jesse Irving, Jr., age 44, of Ceres, was convicted after a 5 day jury trial which began on October 27, 2008. Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case for the People. Irving was convicted of six felony counts involving two different victims.

The case arose out of events which began in February of 2007 and continued through December of that same year. Irving owned a home on Tamarack in Ceres where he kept piles of debris stacked to the ceiling. Detective Watkins of the Sheriff's Office led the investigation and described "just narrow passageways through all the debris" to get around the home. Irving allowed minor boys, aged 13-16 to come over to his house. Once inside he would provide them with methamphetamine. He would then subject them to various pornographic movies and sexually assault them. Two boys, now aged 14 and 16 years old, testified at the jury trial. Rees told the jury that Irving picked the "perfect victims." "Who would believe these boys, they were drug users and delinquents. Who is going to protect them?"

Irving was convicted of two counts of Furnishing a Controlled Substance to a Minor, two counts of Exhibiting Harmful Matter to a Minor, one count of Oral Copulation of a Minor, and one count of Possession of Methamphetamine. Sentencing is scheduled for December 1, 2008 in Department 6 before the Honorable Nancy Ashley who presided over the trial. Irving is looking at a maximum sentence of 13 years and 8 months.

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