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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 9, 2008
Re: Oscar Peralta

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Oscar Peralta, age 32, of Turlock, was remanded by the Honorable Hurl Johnson to serve three years in state prison after entering pleas of guilty to one count of domestic violence, one count of auto theft and one count of robbery on September 18, 2008. The defendant was on parole stemming from an April 4, 2006 conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm and auto theft. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The domestic violence case arose out of events which occurred on August 7, 2008 when Peralta grabbed his girlfriend's neck after she refused to give Peralta her car keys due to Peralta's intoxication. Peralta was arrested a short time later hiding in a neighbor's yard.

The auto theft case arose out of events which occurred on September 1, 2008 when the defendant stole his friend's 2000 Chrysler 300 car. The defendant claimed his friend lent him the car after they smoked some methamphetamine together.

Peralta then drove up at random to a 34-year old male walking on the sidewalk and demanded his wallet. When he discovered that the man had no money, Peralta then took the victim's cell phone and drove off. The car was located abandoned in an alley the next day, where the victim's cell phone was recovered. The defendant claimed that the victim traded the cell phone for twenty dollars worth of methamphetamine.

The robbery conviction is the defendant's first "strike" under California's three strikes law.