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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: January 28, 2009
Re: Prison sentence for Harold Branham

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Harold Branham, age 25, of Modesto, was convicted of January 28, 2009 of Evading a Peace Officer, and admitted having served a prior prison commitment. Deputy District Attorney Beth Owen Prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on January 18, 2009 in the city of Modesto. Modesto police officers witnessed a car run a stop light. Officers tried to pull the car over, but the defendant failed to yield. The defendant fled through residential neighborhoods at speeds of 90 mph. For public safety, the pursuit was called off; however the defendant was seen driving in the same car the next day and was arrested by officers.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Thomas Zeff sentenced Branham to three years in state prison.

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