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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 22, 2009
Re: Manuel Garcia – Possession of
Methamphetamine While in Possession
Of a Firearm Results in 3 years
State Prison

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Manuel Garcia, age 23, of Modesto, was convicted on September 21, 2009 of possession of methamphetamine while in possession of a firearm. Deputy District Attorney Shawn D. Bessey prosecuted the case for the People.

On May 3, 2009 in Modesto, Garcia checked himself into Doctors Medical Center for a gunshot wound. Garcia advised medical staff and Sheriff's investigators that he had been shot while at a taco truck on Crows Landing Road by an unknown assailant. Doctors became suspicious of Garcia's story because the injury appeared to be self-inflicted. Although Garcia stuck with his story, detectives determined that Garcia accidentally shot himself thus possessing a firearm. A small bundle of methamphetamine was found in the coin pocket of his bloody pants.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Donald E. Shaver sentenced Garcia to three years in state prison.

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