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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: January 6, 2009

Re: Brenda Prado Lifer Hearing

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Brenda Prado, age 58, formerly of Grayson, was found unsuitable for parole at a January 28, 2009 hearing of the State Board of Prison Hearings at Central California Women's Facility, a State Prison in Chowchilla. Senior Deputy District Attorney Doug Maner appeared at the hearing to oppose her parole request and to argue for continued confinement based on lack of rehabilitation, poor parole plans and significant disciplinary history while incarcerated. Before the hearing could commence Prado, her attorney and the Parole Board stipulated to a parole denial with no requests for parole for the next five years. The District Attorney's Office objected to the stipulation and cancellation of the hearing, as it deprived the victims of their right to meaningfully address the Parole Board, and the parole denial term was too short, considering the facts of this case and Prado's threat to the community. The maximum length of a parole denial is now 15 years due to the passage of proposition 9, Marsy's Law.

The inmate was convicted of first degree murder in 1991, and was sentenced to 26 years to life in prison. Prado hired Jesus Hernandez and paid him with drugs to join her husband Alfred Padilla in a plot to kill Esther Alvarado over a drug debt in 1988. Prado has expressed no remorse or responsibility for this crime and blames her husband for it. Hernandez and Padilla were also convicted and sentenced to death. Prado has been incarcerated for this crime for 18 years. Three years ago she waived her initial parole hearing and agreed to a three year denial.

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