



OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Stanislaus County  
832 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353  
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

**Birgit Fladager**  
**District Attorney**  
Carol Shipley  
Assistant District Attorney  
Chief Deputy District Attorneys  
Jerry Begen  
Alan Cassidy  
Dave Harris

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: September 23, 2010  
Re: James Haberkam  
Life Sentence for Attempted Murder

**For More Information Contact:**

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney  
Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that the Honorable Judge Timothy Salter sentenced James Oliver Haberkam, Sr., age 49, of Modesto, to 32 years to life for premeditated, attempted murder and discharging a firearm, causing great bodily injury, after a jury convicted him on February 16, 2010. Deputy District Attorney Nate Baker prosecuted the case for the People at jury trial. Deputy District Attorney Carolyn Matzger represented the People at the sentencing hearing.

Haberkam was upset when the victim (his girlfriend of 10 years) ended their relationship and began seeing another man. On September 29, 2007, he asked the victim to meet him and discuss bills related to the apartment they shared. When the victim arrived at the park, Haberkam grabbed her and showed her a gun. He threatened to kill the victim, her new boyfriend, and then kill himself. She broke free from his grip and tried to flee. Haberkam pulled out a .380 semi-automatic handgun and shot her once in her back. Members of the Turlock Police Department and California State University Police arrived quickly and pulled the victim to safety. A 5-hour long standoff ensued between Haberkam and SWAT. Haberkam finally put down his firearm and surrendered.

###