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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 23, 2011
Re: Ivan Alejandro Zamora Blanco

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Ivan Alejandro Zamora Blanco, age 37, of Turlock, was convicted on September 13, 2011 of Attempted Murder with Premeditation, Personal Use and Intentional Discharge of a Firearm, Assault with a Firearm, and Assault with a Semiautomatic Firearm at the conclusion of a three-week jury trial before the Honorable Judge Dawna Frenchie Reeves. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey M. Laugero prosecuted the case for the People.

On January 26, 2010, Blanco, driving a distinctive white Lincoln Aviator, targeted a lone female driving on West Main Street in Turlock. As the female drove towards Modesto on Highway 99 between the Monte Vista and Fulkerth exits, Blanco fired at her with a handgun. One bullet shattered the rear passenger door window and pierced the driver's seat headrest before shattering the driver's door window. Blanco fled after the shooting. The female was not injured.

On March 29, 2010, Blanco and a friend went to a home on Joett Drive in Turlock to confront the residents. A dispute had erupted between the parties when the residents accused Blanco and his friend of stealing some of their tools. Blanco, again driving the Aviator, drove by the home, made a u-turn and, while passing back by the home, fired a round from a semiautomatic handgun. Several of the residents were in front of the home when the round was fired. Blanco, again, fled after the shooting.

After the shooting at the Joett Drive home, an investigation led by Turlock Police Detective Brandon Bertram identified Blanco as the responsible in both shootings. Blanco was located and arrested. A search of Blanco's residence following his arrest revealed another handgun and numerous calibers of ammunition. During an interview, Blanco admitted to both shootings.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for October 18, 2011. Blanco faces a maximum of life in prison with the possibility of parole.

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