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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 5, 2017
Re: Luis Avila
Burglary conviction and state prison sentence

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Luis Avila, age 48, of Modesto, has been convicted of residential burglary of an occupied dwelling and sentenced to state prison. Deputy District Attorney Sean G. Doering prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On January 20, 2017, just after midnight, Avila armed himself with a knife and went to a neighbor's home. He unsuccessfully tried to gain access to the house through two doors, waking the family sleeping inside. Avila then went to a window, threatened the family inside that he would kill them and then broke window. Responding police caught Avila shortly thereafter, finding two knives on his person.

On June 29, 2017, Avila entered a no contest plea to residential burglary. Avila also admitted that there were victims present in the house at the time he committed the crime. This conviction is a strike offense under California's "Three Strikes" law that can be used to double certain future felony convictions if Avila reoffends after being released from prison.

Upon entry of the plea, Judge Ricardo Cordova sentenced Avila to 4 years in state prison.

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