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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 25, 2019
Re: Rufus Buster Beard Jr.
Domestic violence conviction and prison
sentence

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Rufus Buster Beard Jr., age 58, of Modesto, was convicted on February 20, 2019 of domestic battery causing injury. Deputy District Attorney Ahnna Reicks prosecuted the case for the People.

On February 16, 2018, Modesto police officers were dispatched to an apartment in Modesto to investigate a report of a family fight. Neighbors called 911 after seeing Beard pulling and dragging the victim by her feet into her apartment. The victim was screaming hysterically "no, you're going to kill me." The victim sustained scrape marks on her back and bruises to her arm. Beard and the victim had been in a dating relationship.

As part of a plea agreement, Beard pled no contest on February 20th to felony domestic violence. He also admitted to having a prior conviction for kidnapping in 1985 which, pursuant to California's "Three Strikes" Law, was used to double his sentence. He also admitted having previously served a 2016 prison term.

Upon entry of the no contest plea, Judge Scott Steffen sentenced Beard to a total of nine years in state prison.

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