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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 1, 2021
Re: Charles Ranando Stewart, Jr.
Forcible Sex Crimes convictions

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Charles Ranando Stewart, Jr., age 32, of Oakland, CA has been convicted by a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury of two forcible sex crimes as well as robbery, burglary, felony domestic battery, felony assault and stalking. Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Lee prosecuted the case for the People.

Between October 15, 2020 and December 23, 2020, Stewart repeatedly terrorized his 31-year-old ex-girlfriend at her home in Modesto on multiple occasions. On one day, Stewart pulled the victim out of bed by her hair, forced her to oral copulate him, strangled her and raped and robbed her. On another day, he broke into the victim's house by climbing through a window and threatened her with a knife. Stewart was eventually arrested and charged with various felony offenses stemming from the attacks.

The case went to trial this month before Judge Ricardo Cordova. The evidence presented included the victim's testimony detailing how she was both physically and sexually assaulted by Stewart on numerous occasions. On October 25, 2021 after a two-week trial, the jury deliberated roughly three hours before convicting Stewart. The jury also found true an enhancement that Stewart personally used a deadly weapon (knife) during the commission of one of those crimes.

In a subsequent court trial on October 28, 2021, Judge Cordova found true that Stewart had previously been convicted in Alameda County of second-degree robbery in 2011, a "strike" under California's "Three Strikes" law which may be used to double Stewart's punishment at sentencing.

A sentencing hearing is currently set for November 30, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. in Department 8 of the Superior Court. Judge Cordova will hear victim impact statements and arguments from the attorneys before sentencing Stewart who faces a maximum potential sentence of 36 years in state prison.

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