



OFFICE OF THE  
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**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

Date: May 17, 2005

Re: **GANG MEMBER ARRESTED**

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney Jim Brazelton announced today that FELIX “GATO” LOPEZ, a reputed member of the Nuestra Familia Prison Gang, was arrested inside the Stanislaus County Court House by Modesto Police Department Gang Detectives for intimidating witnesses who were present in court to testify against Lopez for his involvement in a 2004 shooting that occurred within the city of Modesto. Deputy District Attorney Thomas Brennan of the Stanislaus County Gang Task Force will be prosecuting both of Lopez’s cases.

District Attorney Jim Brazelton has a no tolerance policy of prosecuting gang members, particularly gang members who commit crimes against witnesses in pending criminal cases. Witness intimidation with the gang enhancement carries a life term in prison. District Attorney Brazelton promises to aggressively prosecute Lopez to the full extent of the law.

Lopez will be arraigned on the new charges Monday afternoon in Stanislaus County Superior Court.