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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 12, 2006

Re: Anthony Craig Richardson,
Lois Elaine Akins

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA - Stanislaus County Assistant District Attorney Carol Shipley announced today that Anthony Craig Richardson, age 19, of Modesto, entered guilty pleas to six counts of robbery and one count of attempted robbery in Stanislaus County Superior Court. Richardson also admitted two sentencing enhancements which alleged he used a handgun in the commission of a robbery and one of his victims was 65 years or older. Lois Elaine Akins, a co-defendant in the case, also 19 years old, entered a guilty plea to one count of robbery. Deputy District Attorney Shawn L. Barlow prosecuted the case.

The case arose out of a series of robberies which took place in Modesto between October 28, 2005 and November 8, 2005. In each instance, Richardson would confront his victims on the street or after they had parked their vehicles and demand money and valuables. On at least one occasion, Richardson was armed with a replica firearm. In the final case, Richardson entered a convenience store and demanded money, but was chased from the store by employees. Akins was the driver in a vehicle Richardson used to make his escape in one of the robberies.

Richardson was sentenced to 9 years, 4 months in state prison and ordered to pay full restitution to each of his victims. Akins was sentenced to 365 days in county jail, with 3 years in state prison suspended and formal probation.