



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354
Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney
Carol Shipley
Assistant District Attorney
Chief Deputy District Attorneys
Jerry Begen
Steve Casey
Alan Cassidy
Dave Harris

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 18, 2008
Re: The People v. Jose Angel Martinez
Case No. 1244790

For More Information Contact:

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney
Phone: (209) 525-5550

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA - Stanislaus County District Attorney, Birgit Fladager, announced that on September 17, 2008, Jose Angel Martinez was found guilty by jury trial of felony evading a police officer with reckless driving. The Honorable Judge Hurl W. Johnson presided over the trial. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey M. Laugero prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on May 3, 2008. A gold Acura that had been reported stolen to Modesto Police Department earlier in the day was located by Ceres Police Officer Jason Brock. While Officer Brock and other Ceres officers conducted surveillance of the unoccupied vehicle, Jose Angel Martinez and a female passenger entered the vehicle and drove away from a Modesto address. The Ceres officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle, but Martinez fled, leading officers on a pursuit. The officers saw Martinez violate numerous traffic safety laws, including failing to stop for several stop signs, unsafe speed, and reckless driving. Martinez nearly collided with other vehicles in his attempt to evade officers. The pursuit ended when Martinez crashed the Acura into a fence and ran, leaving the female passenger behind. Martinez was located a short distance away and arrested. Sentencing is scheduled for October 15, 2008. Martinez faces a maximum time in prison of three years.