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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 27, 2008
Re: Modesto Chapter President
Of Mongols Outlaw Biker Gang
Detention Hearing in Fresno

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Modesto, California – District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that investigators from the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office were involved in the arrest of Modesto Chapter President of Mongols Outlaw Biker Gang.



News Release



San Francisco Field Division

For Immediate Release

October 23, 2008

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MODESTO CHAPTER PRESIDENT OF MONGOLS OUTLAW BIKER GANG TO HAVE DETENTION HEARING TODAY IN FRESNO

Subject Arrested by ATF and Modesto Central Valley Gang Impact Team Tuesday

MODESTO, Calif. – Acting Special Agent in Charge Michael P. Gleysteen of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) San Francisco Field Division, announced that Ely Michael Cervantes, 42, Modesto Chapter President of the Mongols outlaw motorcycle gang, has a detention hearing today in Fresno, Calif. He was arrested Tuesday in Modesto following the service of a federal search warrant.

Cervantes was arrested without incident by ATF, with assistance from the Central Valley Gang Impact Team (CVGIT), at his residence on Floyd Ave. Cervantes was charged as a felon in possession of a firearm, in conjunction with a three-year investigation by the ATF Los Angeles Field Division called Operation Black Rain.

Mongol members in other states have been charged with murder, attempted murder, assaults, firearms violations and narcotics violations. These violent crimes will be incorporated as predicate acts in a federal racketeering prosecution to further dismantle the Mongols criminal organization from coast to coast.

"The arrest of Ely Cervantes is a good example of the close cooperation between law enforcement agencies across the country. The Modesto Police Department was pleased to be able to assist and will continue to fight the dangers represented by organized criminal enterprises", stated Modesto Police Chief Roy Wasden.

The public is reminded that all persons arrested are only alleged to have committed a crime. A defendant is presumed innocent of the charges and it is the government's burden to prove a defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

ATF is the federal agency with jurisdiction for investigating federal firearms violations. More information on ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.