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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 13, 2008
Re: Benson Neal

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Benson Neal of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole at an October 9, 2008 hearing of the State Board of Prison Terms at Solano State Prison. Attorney Richard Gore appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on the potential danger Neal would pose if he were released into the community. The Board of Prison Terms agreed and denied parole for a period of three years.

On June 6, 1982, Neal along with Frank Ford, Frank Aleo, and Sharon Poma, decided to rob Dixon Flinders. They went to Flinder's home and gained entry by kicking in the door. When Flinders grabbed a rifle in order to defend himself, he was shot in the chest by Ford. While Flinders lay mortally wounded on the floor, the robbers ransacked the residence and made off with money and property.

Neal was convicted by Jury of first degree murder on March 3, 1983. He is serving a twenty five year to life prison sentence. This was Neal's third parole hearing. He had previously been denied parole on May 5, 2005.

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