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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: October 7, 2008  
Re: The People of the State of California  
versus Jessie Willard III

**For More Information Contact:**

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jessie Willard III pled no contest to two counts of assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury. Deputy District Attorney John Baker prosecuted this case for the People.

The case arose out of an event that occurred in 2005 in the city of Modesto. The defendant's sister had words with a neighbor. The defendant, along with several others, returned to the neighbor's home. A physical altercation ensued. The defendant struck two victims with a pool cue that he picked up in the neighbors garage. One of the victims suffered a skull fracture. He has since recovered from his injuries.

Upon the entry of the no contest plea the Honorable Nancy Ashley found Willard guilty and sentenced him to five years in state prison.