



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
Alan Cassidy
Dave Harris

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 21, 2009
Re: Victor Camarena- Robber is sentenced to
26 years in state prison

For More Information Contact:

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

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Victor Camarena, age 26, of Keyes, was convicted of robbery with use of a gun, felony in possession of firearm, felon in possession of ammunition and felony evading on May 20, 2009. Camarena also admitted he had a prior felony conviction that falls under California's "Three Strikes" law. Deputy District Attorney Shawn D. Bessey prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on March 6th, 2008 in the city of Modesto. Camarena robbed the victim of his wallet and car keys at gun point and fled in the victim's car. Camarena was spotted several days later by a Modesto Police officer. Camarena, who was a passenger in a car, put the car in gear and forced the driver to drive away at a high rate of speed. The driver lost control of the vehicle and crashed. Camarena ran from the police but was apprehended a short distance away. Officers found live ammunition in Camarena's pocket.

Upon entry of the guilty plea, the Honorable Nancy Ashley sentenced the defendant to 26 years in state prison. He must serve at least 85% of his time before he will be eligible for parole.

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