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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 13, 2009
Re: Jeffrey Richard Hanawalt-
Five Years Prison for Attempted
Possession of a Controlled Substance

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that On August 6, 2009, Jeffrey Richard Hanawalt, age 48, of Modesto, was convicted of attempted possession of a controlled substance. The case was prosecuted on behalf of the People of the State of California by Deputy District Attorney Abel C.K. Hung.

On September 26, 2008, Modesto Police Department's Narcotics Enforcement Team initially arrested two individuals suspected of selling drugs and seized their cell phones. Throughout the day, undercover officers, posing as drug dealers, began taking orders from individuals who called the phones to purchase drugs. Hanawalt was one of those individuals who arranged to purchase drugs from the undercover officer. The transaction was to occur at a separate location and officers arrested Hanawalt when he showed up at that location. Upon his arrest, Hanawalt admitted to the officers that he intended to purchase drugs. Hanawalt has three prior felony convictions which fall under California's "Three Strikes Law" and has served for separate prison terms.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Marie Silveira sentenced Hanawalt to five years in state prison.