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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Date: May 12, 2009 Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney

Re: Darren Ray Waid – Escapee sentenced to Phone: (209) 525-5550

2 years in state prison

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Darren Ray Waid, age <u>20</u>, of Modesto, was convicted on May 11, 2009 of Escape and Battery on a Police dog. Deputy District Attorney Randy Fischer prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on April 23, 2009. Waid was serving a 300 day sentence at the Sheriff's Honor Farm for being a Felon in possession of a handgun. On the 23rd he escaped from the Honor Farm, and remained a fugitive until his arrest on May 1, 2009. Police responded on a tip to 3020 Carver Road in Modesto where they had information that the wanted fugitive was present. As they approached, an unidentified male yelled, "It's the police" and Waid took off running out the back. A police canine was deployed after Waid refused officers' orders to stop and surrender. Waid scaled a fence and continued to evade pursuing officers. The canine caught up to him as he hid in a private yard at Marsha and India. When the dog found him hiding behind two statues in the back Waid started to punch and fight with the dog. Two officers attempted to get Waid out from behind the statue as he fought with the police canine. Waid was subdued and arrested. Waid was treated at Doctor's Medical Center for bite wounds to his shin before being booked into jail

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Donald Shaver sentenced Waid to two years in the state prison.