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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 19, 2011
Re: People v. Jenkins, 1424511

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Danny Jenkins, Jr., age 31, of Modesto was convicted after a jury trial on July 15, 2011 of First Degree Robbery, First Degree Burglary, and Assault with a Deadly Weapon. The jury further found true the enhancements for use of a deadly weapon and the age of the victim. In a separate court trial, the Honorable Nancy Ashley found that Jenkins had served two prior prison terms. Deputy District Attorney Meghan Greerty prosecuted the case for the People.

On October 8, 2010, in the La Loma neighborhood of Modesto in the late afternoon, Jenkins broke into the victim's home, held a knife to the victim's throat, and demanded money. The victim, a 92-year-old WWII veteran, gave Jenkins cash which the victim kept in a marked envelope along with good luck charms. Jenkins fled from the house, where he was seen by the victim's grandson, who gave chase. The victim gave a description of the robber to 911 operators, and officers from the Modesto Police Department stopped Jenkins a few blocks away. Neither the money nor the knife was found on Jenkins, but the envelope and good luck charms were found in his pocket. A witness testified that he saw Jenkins near the home shortly before the robbery, and the victim identified Jenkins as the responsible. Evidence at trial indicated that not only was it daylight at the time of the home invasion, but that Jenkins was aware that someone was home when he broke into the house and armed himself with a knife. Deputy District Attorney Meghan Greerty stated, "This was a brazen crime in which the defendant showed a clear willingness to commit violence."

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for September 20, 2011. Jenkins faces a maximum term of ten years in state prison.

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