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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: March 29, 2011

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Keith Lamont Tribble #1407523

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Keith Lamont Tribble, age 47, of Modesto, was sentenced on March 29, 2011 to 51 years to life after being convicted by a jury on January 13, 2011 of assault likely to produce great bodily injury, sexual battery on a restrained person, and false imprisonment. Deputy District Attorney Elaine G. Casillas prosecuted the case for the People.

On August 27, 2009 at approximately 2:30 p.m., the female victim was working at her job as a housekeeper at a hotel in Modesto and cleaning the bathroom of one of the vacant rooms. Tribble entered the room, grabbed the victim by her neck and lifted her up from the floor. After a brief struggle in the bathroom, the victim managed to escape into the bedroom area until Tribble grabbed her by the hair and threw her onto one of the beds. Tribble straddled her and pulled at her blouse and bra. Tribble hit the victim in the face as she tried to push and kick him off of her. At one point, the victim bit Tribble's finger which gave her a chance to run for the main door of the room. However, Tribble grabbed her again and threw her down to the floor where he continued to assault her. The victim managed to bite him again which caused him to get off her and leave the room.

During a court trial on January 14, 2011 regarding Tribble's prior convictions, the Honorable Ricardo Cordova found that Tribble had previously been convicted of two different charges of annoying or molesting a child in 1983 and 1998 which are both "strikes" under California's "Three Strikes Law," as well as one prior prison commitment for failing to register as a sex offender in 2008.

During the sentencing hearing on March 29, 2011, the victim was present in court and asked Deputy District Attorney Elaine Casillas to read a statement she had written for the court. Casillas read, "After the attack at [the motel], my life has changed in different ways; I'm afraid to go out by myself...and every time I clean the same room where the accident happened, I can't stay alone...[I'm] always...feeling that somebody is watching me."

After further argument, the Honorable Ricardo Cordova denied the defense motion to dismiss a "strike." He agreed with Casillas that Tribble committed separate acts of violence, and due to his numerous prior convictions and parole violations, Tribble was a danger to society.

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