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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 25, 2012
Re: Erich Krause

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Erich Krause, age 33, of Modesto was convicted on February 16, 2012 of second degree murder. A court trial was then held on the issue of sanity. Mr. Krause was, by agreement of all parties and the court, found to be not guilty by reason of insanity. Deputy District Attorney John Baker prosecuted the case for the People.

On December 27, 2008, police were dispatched to a residence on East Roseburg in Modesto. Upon arrival, police found Peter Wiersma, age 63, mortally injured from wounds received when he was attacked by his step-son, Krause. The attack on Mr. Wiersma was unprovoked. On the evening of the attack, and subsequent to that night, Krause was examined by several psychiatric experts. These medical professionals were in agreement that Krause was not sane at the time of the offense.

On March 15, 2012, the Honorable Marie Silveira sentenced Krause to Napa State Hospital for a maximum term of 15 years to life.

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