PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 6, 2015
Re: People v. Charlette Corine Novak

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Charlette Corine Novak, age 37, of Modesto, was convicted by jury trial on February 27, 2015 of Transportation of a Controlled Substance, Possession for Sale of a Controlled Substance and Evading a Peace Officer. Judge John Whiteside also found that Novak had three prior convictions for transportation and possession for sales of a controlled substance. Deputy District Attorney Jessica E. Bustos prosecuted the case for the People. These three prior convictions each add an additional three year term to Novak's sentence.

On April 28, 2011, Detective Humble from the Stanislaus County's Sheriff's Office obtained a cell phone from an arrestee. He initiated a text conversation with that arrestee's dealer and arranged a meeting to purchase methamphetamine. The dealer, Novak, fled the location when she saw the undercover vehicle. Novak then led the detectives on a pursuit lasting 5 minutes and which spanned 4 miles in the city of Riverbank where she threw several incriminating items out of the window, including a canister with 2 large bags of methamphetamine, a digital scale and her cell phone. These items were recovered. Novak finally stopped and was taken into custody. Deputies found methamphetamine on her person and methamphetamine in the vehicle.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 30, 2015. Novak faces a maximum of 14 years and 4 months in prison.

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