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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: September 18, 2015  
Re: Douglas Levon Dawkins

**For More Information Contact:**

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that on September 10, 2015, Douglas Levon Dawkins, age 47, of Modesto was convicted of robbery. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey Darnell.

On the morning of June 1, 2015, the manager of The Dollar Tree store in Patterson went to the bank to make a cash deposit. A masked man armed with a replica firearm approached him, demanded the money but was thwarted when the manager put it into the night deposit box. When the robber tried to steal the manager's wallet but couldn't find it, he took the manager's keys and fled on foot. The crime was reported to police, but no suspects were located.

The following day, Dawkins' wife telephoned police stating that he had confessed to committing the robbery. She provided details of the crime including the location of the replica firearm, which police recovered. Dawkins was arrested at The Dollar Tree store in Modesto where he was employed. The stolen keys were found in his pocket.

Dawkins was convicted after a jury trial held in Stanislaus County Superior Court before the Judge Ricardo Cordova. The next day, Judge Cordova found the defendant had prior convictions for robbery, assault with a deadly weapon while in prison, possession of a firearm, and second degree burglary.

Dawkins had previously been sentenced in September 2013 to 5 years state prison for his latest felony theft offense. After Proposition 47 was passed by the voters in November, 2014, he was allowed to have that felony conviction reduced to a misdemeanor and was released in February.

Due to Dawkins' violent criminal history, he now faces the potential of spending life in prison under California's "Three Strikes Law." He returns to court on November 9, 2015 for sentencing.

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