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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: February 23, 2016
Re: People v. Rajon Akeemlee Alexander

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Rajon Akeemlee Alexander, age 21, of Modesto, was convicted on January 11th, 2016 by a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury of attempted murder with an enhancement for using a firearm, assault with a firearm with an enhancement for causing great bodily injury, carrying a concealed dirk or dagger, being a felon in possession of a firearm, possession of methamphetamine, and resisting arrest. Deputy District Attorney Mabel Lew prosecuted this case for the People.

On August 5, 2015, Alexander approached the victim outside of the victim's home and accused him of sleeping with Alexander's girlfriend. Alexander pulled out a gun, pointed it within two feet of the victim's face and pulled the trigger, but the gun did not fire. As the victim turned to walk into his house, Alexander stepped in front of him and pulled the trigger again, shooting the victim in the upper left leg. When the victim yelled for help, his niece came outside and told Alexander to leave because the police had been called. Alexander moved several hundred feet away, aimed at the victim and pulled the trigger once more, but the gun again failed to fire. Alexander then fled from the scene.

The next day, Modesto Police found Alexander walking on a public street, ordered him to stop, and gave chase when he ran away. During the foot pursuit, Alexander dropped a large knife that had been hidden in his waistband. When he was caught, he was also found in possession of methamphetamine. Alexander lied to them about his name but was ultimately identified and arrested.

On February 22, 2016, Judge Nancy Ashley sentenced Alexander to 41 years, 8 months in state prison. This lengthy commitment was based upon the facts of the case, the nature of the charges and enhancements, and his prior criminal history. At the time he did the shooting, Alexander was on three separate grants of probation for three separate prior felony convictions. One of those convictions, attempted residential burglary, was a "strike" under California's "Three Strikes" Law that was used to double his sentence.

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