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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: January 26, 2017
Re: Lonnie Ray Decker
Prison Sentence

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Lonnie Ray Decker, age 46, of Modesto, was sentenced on January 13, 2017 to ten years in state prison for transporting heroin for the purpose of sales. Deputy District Attorney Heather Melton prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On April 6, 2016, members of the Stanislaus County Auto Theft Taskforce stopped and searched a reported stolen vehicle being driven by Decker. Officers found a scale commonly used for measuring drug amounts in Decker's pants pocket and 53 grams of heroin in the female passenger's pocket. Text messages on Decker's cell phone were consistent with being involved in the sale of heroin.

On July 15, 2016, a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury returned a guilty verdict convicting Decker of transporting heroin for the purpose of sales. The next day, July 16, 2016, Decker admitted he had been previously convicted of First Degree Residential Burglary in 1992, Kidnapping in 1998 and Assault with a Firearm on a Person in 1999. Decker also admitted that he had previously served two prison terms. Judge Shawn Bessey then sentenced Decker to a total of 10 years in state prison.

Prior to Decker's jury trial, the female passenger, Kimberly Kay Clayton, age 24, of Tulare, entered a plea of no contest to possessing heroin for the purpose of sales. She was placed on three years of probation and ordered to serve a year in the local county jail.

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