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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 16, 2017
Re: Mario Beltran

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Mario Beltran, 31, of Turlock, has been convicted of the 2013 murder of Ricky Cadruvi. Deputy District Attorney John R. Mayne prosecuted the case for the People.

In January of 2014, after Cadruvi's family reported him missing, Modesto Police Department detectives located possible witnesses who led them to Cadruvi's body. The body had been buried behind Beltran's garage in the unincorporated area of Modesto.

Testimony by a then-14-year-old girl at the preliminary hearing indicated that she was present when Beltran shot Cadruvi with a shotgun. When interviewed by police, Beltran admitted that he buried the body but blamed the murder on someone else.

On February 3, 2017, Beltran pled guilty before Judge Thomas Zeff to the charges of murder, personal use of a firearm and felony assault. He will be sentenced on March 16, 2017 before Judge Shawn Bessey. Beltran is expected to receive 20 years to life in state prison.

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