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CORRECTED PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 6, 2017
Re: Ricardo Solis
Sex offender prison sentence

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Ricardo Solis, age 50, of Ceres, was sentenced to 8 years in prison on October 30, 2017, despite being eligible under California’s “Three Strikes” law for a prison sentence of 25 years to life in prison due to his serious and violent criminal history. Deputy District Attorney Erin Peck prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

On August 30th, Solis was convicted at jury trial of failing to register as a sex offender. He had previously been convicted of forcible rape in 1985. In 1999, Solis re-offended and was convicted of physically assaulting two people. One of those victims suffered a skull fracture as a result. In that case, Solis was sentenced to serve 18 years in prison. Upon being released from prison and placed on parole, Solis immediately absconded and was a wanted “parolee at large” when arrested for failing to register as a sex offender.

Each of Solis’s prior convictions qualified as serious or violent felonies under California’s “Three Strikes” law, making him eligible for a life sentence. At a sentencing hearing on October 30th before, Judge Ricardo Cordova, Deputy District Attorney Peck argued that such a sentence was appropriate for a violent sex offender given the nature of his prior convictions and his total disregard of the registration law and parole conditions.

Solis’s defense attorney argued that a life sentence would be cruel and unusual punishment since Solis was being sentenced for failing to register as a sex offender. Judge Cordova agreed and granted the defense motion to strike the two convictions of assault with a deadly weapon over the People’s objection. Cordova then sentenced Solis to a determinate term of 8 years in prison.

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