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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 30, 2002

Re: **People vs. Lorenzo Fosselman**

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Lorenzo Fosselman, 24, of Merced, was convicted in a jury trial of violations of Penal Code sections 215 (carjacking) and 2800.2 (evading a peace officer), September 27, 2002. The jury also found the Fosselman used a firearm during the course of the carjacking. Deputy District Attorney Dawna Frenchie prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on April 13, 2002 in the city of Modesto. Fosselman approached a woman sitting in a car at the 7-11 Store on McHenry and Morris. Fosselman got into the driver's seat and pointed a gun at the woman, demanding that she exit the vehicle. Fosselman then drove off in the vehicle. Law enforcement activated its S.N.A.R.E. (Synchronized Neighboring Agency Response to Emergency) program, and was able to locate defendant traveling northbound on Highway 99, in the carjacked vehicle. Fosselman then led officer's on a short high speed pursuit in the city of Ripon before crashing into a telephone pole and fleeing the vehicle. Fosselman, and another man, Keyven Dancy, were both located a short distance away, hiding in separate backyards. Dancy had some of the victim's property with him when he was arrested.

A court trial will be held on , October 2, 2002, before the Honorable Hurl Johnson to determine if Fosselman has suffered two prior convictions which would make him a candidate for sentencing under the "Three Strikes and You're Out" law. If the prior convictions are found true, Fosselman faces a maximum sentence of 70 years to life.