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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: December 18, 2003

Re: People v. Longoria, jury verdict

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA- Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Luis Carlos Longoria, 30, was convicted by a jury of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving with a blood alcohol level of 0.08 or above. The defendant's two prior convictions for similar offenses in 1996 and 1998 were also found to be true. Deputy District Attorney Lara Clinton prosecuted the case for the People.

On March 2, 2003, while on patrol, an Oakdale Police officer pulled the defendant over for a Vehicle Code violation. Longoria was contacted behind the wheel of his truck after he pulled up onto his front lawn. His blood alcohol level was tested to be .12%, well above the legal limit.

The defendant insisted under oath at trial that his cousin was the driver and that the police were lying. However, the arresting officer and a passenger in defendant's truck testified at the jury trial that the defendant was driving.

After the jury's verdict the Honorable Roger Beauchesne placed the defendant on four years probation, ordered the defendant to serve 180 days in jail, and revoked his driving privilege for three years. The judge further ordered him to attend an 18 month multiple offender drinking driver school, install an ignition interlock device on any vehicle he owns or operates, and pay mandatory fines and penalties of \$1600.00. This was the defendant's fourth alcohol related driving conviction.

This conviction is a good reminder during this month, designated National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, and especially during the holidays that the Stanislaus County District Attorney's office will not tolerate drinking and driving. Please use a designated driver.