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**NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

Date: October 5, 2005

Re: Juan Mendiola Parole Hearing

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County Assistant District Attorney Carol Shipley announced today that Juan Mendiola, age 31, of Modesto, was denied a parole at a hearing held October 4, 2005. He is currently serving a sentence of 16 years to life on two counts of second degree murder.

Mendiola pled guilty to second degree murder and being armed with a gun in July, 1996, for his part in the robbery-murders of Francisco Vega and Enrique Cuevas at the Riverview Market on Robertson Road in Modesto that occurred in May, 1994. Mendiola acted in concert with at least two other robbers, but was not the shooter.

Deputy District Attorney Steve Casey attended the hearing and argued that Mendiola should not be paroled due, in part, to his lack of remorse for his crimes and lack of effort to overcome his substance abuse problem while in prison. Mendiola's next hearing will be in three years.

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