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PRESS

For immediate release

Contact John Goold

Date: August 9, 2006

Chief Deputy District Attorney

Re: GEORGE CARLOS OCHOA-BARRIGA

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that GEORGE CARLOS OCHOA-BARRIGA, age 23, of Turlock was convicted at jury trial on August 4th, 2006 of robbery while personally using a knife. Deputy District Attorney Arral A. Phipps prosecuted the case.

The case arose out of events which occurred on January 4th, 2005 in the city of Turlock. Defendant Ochoa-Barriga, who had been terminated from employment at Stop N Save Liquors at 825 E. Main Street on 11-12-04, returned to the store on January 4, 2005. He put on a mask before entering the store and threatened the clerk with a knife prior to emptying the register and two safes of their contents. The transaction took less than a minute and was recorded on video/ audio tape. Security for the store was able to identify Ochoa-Barriga's voice on the tape. The Defendant admitted to Turlock Police to owning and previously wearing a sweater similar to the sweater worn during the robbery.

Sentencing is scheduled for September 11, 2006 before Superior Court Judge Marie Silveira. Ochoa-Barriga faces up to five years in state prison.