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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 6, 2007
Re: Defendant Russell Jones
Victim: Dena Raley-McCluskey

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Modesto, California - District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that a forensic dental record examination has confirmed that human remains recovered last week are that of Dena Raley-McCluskey.

Raley-McCluskey disappeared in 1999. Recently, after investigating new leads in the case, Modesto Police Detectives located human remains that were suspected to be those of Raley-McCluskey.

On Monday, November 5th, 2007, the District Attorney's Office filed a criminal complaint charging Russell Jones of Modesto with a single count of murder. He is currently being held in the Stanislaus County jail in lieu of \$2 million dollars bail.

Jones appeared before Stanislaus County Superior Court Judge Thomas Zeff on Monday where he was advised of the charges against him. Jones did not enter a plea but requested his arraignment be continued to a later date. His bail was set at \$2 million dollars.

Jones will appear before Judge Zeff again on November 21st, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. to enter a plea and complete his arraignment on the charge. District Attorney Fladager wishes to remind the public that criminal charges are allegations only and that every defendant is innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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