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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 11, 2008
Re: People v. Genaro Fernandez-Anaya

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Patterson Rapist Convicted

After a six-day jury trial that began Thursday, January 31, 2008, Genaro Fernandez-Anaya was convicted of Assault With Intent to Commit Rape During the Course of a Burglary, and Rape. Both felony counts carried a special enhancement for the use of a deadly weapon.

The incident occurred on December 15, 2006 when the defendant, a stranger to the victim, knocked on the door of a small home in Patterson. The victim, a 23-year-old woman, answered and, when Anaya said he had a package, she opened the screen door, as well. Anaya pushed his way into the home and chased the victim through the kitchen into a bathroom. As she ran through the kitchen, the victim grabbed a knife which Anaya was able to take away and hold to her throat. Once inside the bathroom, he slapped her and raped her, before fleeing. She was treated at Doctor's Medical Center where Detectives from the Stanislaus Sheriff's Office interviewed her and got a description of the man.

Two days later, the victim sat down with Detective Sebron Banks, from the Modesto Police Department who worked with the victim to develop a sketch of the suspect. That sketch appeared in local news media and several tips were received. It was not until July of 2007 that Genaro Fernandez-Anaya was matched with the sketch by anonymous tip and a photo line up was presented to the victim. After six months, and 5 prior line-ups, she was able to identify her rapist. "I had to catch my breath - I thought I was going to faint", within a few seconds she said "That's him."

"Anaya wore a condom, and was careful to grasp the knife on top of the victim's hand, so we had no DNA, and no fingerprints. It was a difficult case, but the jury worked very hard. They deliberated for 2 days, and all of the evidence pointed to Anaya", said Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees who prosecuted the case.

A court trial was held on February 8 at 9:30 in Dept 7. The prior convictions under the Three Strikes law were found true. Judge Donald Shaver presided over the case. Sentencing is scheduled for March 7, 2008. Anaya could be sentenced up to 50 years to life.