



OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Stanislaus County  
832 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353  
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

**Birgit Fladager**  
**District Attorney**  
**Carol Shipley**  
Assistant District Attorney  
Chief Deputy District Attorneys  
Jerry Begen  
Steve Casey  
Alan Cassidy  
Dave Harris

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: November 21, 2008  
Re: James Leroy Kelly  
35 Years to Life for Robbery

**For More Information Contact:**

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney  
Phone: (209) 525-5550

**Modesto, California** – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that James Leroy Kelly, age 42, of Modesto, was sentenced to a prison term of 35 years to life on 11/20/08 by Judge Hurl Johnson. The defendant had been convicted at jury trial on 7/1/08. Deputy District Attorney Wendell Emerson prosecuted the case. The case was investigated by Sgt. Jon Buehler of the Modesto Police Department. The Honorable Judge Hurl Johnson presided over the jury trial.

The case arose out of events which occurred on December 20, 2007 in the city of Modesto. During the evening hours of that day, Kelly approached the victim who was her preparing to get into her car. Kelly then assaulted the victim, took her purse and ran off. After hearing his mother's plea for help, the victim's son came out of the residence, chased Kelly down and held him until police were able to arrest him.

Kelly was found guilty of robbery. Further, the court found true the criminal allegations that Kelly had previously been convicted of 2 separate counts of robbery, attempted robbery and first degree burglary. The court further found true the additional allegation that Kelly had not remained free of prison custody for more than five years before committing the current offense.

# # #