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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: June 25, 2008

Re: Thiessen parole denial

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Douglas Thiessen, age 51, of Newman was found unsuitable for parole at a hearing of the State Board of Prison Terms in Lancaster on June 24, 2008. Deputy District Attorney Doug Maner appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on Thiessen's lack of rehabilitation and non-existent parole plans. The Board of Prison Terms agreed and denied parole for 2 years, the maximum period of denial for an attempted murder conviction.

Thiessen was convicted of Attempted Murder with premeditation, assault with a deadly weapon, criminal threats and elder abuse in 2002 and is serving an eight years-to-life prison sentence. This was his first parole hearing.

Theissen wrapped a belt around his 77 year mother's neck, twisting tightly, cutting off her air supply. She was unable to breathe or make a sound. He told her, "I'm going to kill you, I could kill you like I did Bill (his brother) and have no regrets". Theissen had previously been convicted of felonious battery causing great bodily injury of his sister.

He had no plans for employment, housing or support if he were to be paroled.

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