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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: January 9, 2009

Re: Rosa Rapalo Brizendine-Wife Receives

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50 years to life for the murder of husband

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Rosa Rapalo Brizendine, age 50, of Ceres was sentenced by the Honorable Hurl Johnson to a prison sentence of forty years to life for the September 11, 2006 slaying of her husband Alvin Brizendine at their ranch home in Ceres. Ms. Brizendine was found guilty of second degree murder and discharging a firearm that resulted in Mr. Brizendine's death by a jury on November 14, 2008 after a 3 week trial. In attendance at today's hearing were many members of Mr. Brizendine's family and friends as well as the gentleman who served as foreman of the jury. A close friend of the victim and his sister -in-law addressed the court about the losses they have suffered as a result of Ms. Brizendine's actions. The prosecutor, Randy Fischer, read an impact statement prepared by the victim's brother. The Deputy Probation Officer who prepared a report for the court, Emily Boyd, read a statement on behalf of the victim's son. The defendant declined to make a statement when given the opportunity by Judge Johnson. Her attorney, Robert Westbrook, told the court that she was remorseful and has always been reluctant to talk about the homicide.

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