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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: January 27, 2009  
Re: Elias Mora Magana- Jury Convicts  
Drunk Driver

**For More Information Contact:**

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Elias Mora Magana, age 57, of Los Banos, was convicted on January 29, after a two-day jury trial, of driving under the influence (DUI), having a blood alcohol concentration of .15 percent or more. Deputy District Attorney Meghan Greerty prosecuted the case on behalf of the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on January 24, 2008, when Magana lost control of his car while driving on Hills Ferry Road near Newman, causing his car to go off the road and get stuck in the mud. CHP Officers Reeves and Glenn responded to the scene. Magana got out of the driver's seat and walked up to the officers, keys in hand. He admitted to drinking and driving the car. After a DUI investigation was conducted, it was determined that Magana had been driving under the influence of alcohol. A breath test revealed the Defendant's blood alcohol content to be .24, .26%, and Magana was arrested and charged.

The Honorable John Whiteside, who presided over the trial, sentenced Magana to 20 days in the county jail.

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