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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 13, 2011
Re: Johnnie Lee Jones and
Mitchell Keith Cornog

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Johnnie Lee Jones, age 64, and Mitchell Keith Cornog, age 57, both of Modesto entered pleas to charges resulting from the sale of heroin. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey M. Laugero prosecuted the case for the People.

On November 11, 2008, a confidential informant working for the Modesto Police Department's Narcotic Enforcement Team purchased heroin from parolee Johnnie Lee Jones.

On December 6, 2008, the confidential informant purchased more heroin from Jones and Mitchell Keith Cornog, Jones's accomplice. After the second sale, officers arrested Jones and Cornog. A parole search of Jones's residence was conducted and more heroin and indicia of heroin sales located. After his arrest, Jones admitted to selling and possessing heroin for sale. Cornog also admitted his involvement.

On October 11, 2011, Cornog entered a guilty plea to selling heroin and admitted having served a prior prison term. He was sentenced by Judge Reeves to six years in state prison.

On October 13, 2011, Jones entered a guilty plea to two counts of selling heroin, one count of possession of heroin for sale, admitted having previously been convicted of a serious or violent felony "strike" offense and having served three prior prison terms. Jones was sentenced by the Honorable Judge Reeves to 17 years and 8 months in state prison.

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