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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 15, 2011
Re: Mark Alan Richardson #1421031

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Mark Allen Richardson, age 51, of Modesto, was convicted on September 6, 2011 of Attempted Murder and Assault to commit Rape. Deputy District Attorney Annette Rees prosecuted the case for the People.

On July 20, 2010 in the Tuolumne Park in Modesto, the 47-year-old victim was approached by Richardson who offered her beer. He suddenly grabbed at her, began ripping off her clothes and put his hands around her throat.

The victim's screams were heard by two young men who approached the scene and saw Richardson trying to submerge the victim's head under water. The two men yelled at Richardson who then took a swing at one of them and then ran off. Richardson was spotted running from the area and identified by the witnesses. DDA Rees stated "Jane Doe was an easy target, vulnerable and homeless. If it were not for these two individuals who were willing to put themselves at risk, I fear we would have had another homicide of a very vulnerable victim."

Upon entry of the no contest plea, Richardson was sentenced by the Honorable Nancy Ashley to 16 years, 8 months in state prison.

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