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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 15, 2016
Re: Sharon Elder

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Sharon Elder, age 51, of Modesto, was sentenced on March 14, 2016 for felony robbery. Deputy District Attorney Elaine G. Casillas prosecuted the case for the People.

On March 18, 2015, a loss prevention officer at Cost Less Foods in Modesto saw Elder conceal items in her purse and exit the store without paying for the merchandise. After he approached Elder and identified himself as store security, Elder ran away. The loss prevention officer gave chase and upon catching Elder, she physically resisted and bit the officer on his hand. Another store employee responded and helped take Elder into custody.

Elder also had been previously convicted of a robbery in 1994. That prior conviction falls under California's "Three Strikes" Law and was used to increase her sentence. Based on the facts of the offense, Elder's criminal history, and the agreement of the parties, Judge Linda McFadden sentenced Elder to 11 years in state prison.

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