

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**09/14/2001**

**MODESTO, CALIFORNIA –**

**District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that James David Kabaluk, age 47, of Modesto, was sentenced on September 14, 2001 to more than 20 yrs in state prison for a series of residential burglaries that occurred in March 1999 in the City of Modesto.**

**Kabaluk was convicted after a jury trial in June of breaking into several homes where he gained access by using a remote control garage door opener. He also broke into houses by posing as a fireman. Kabaluk would wear a stolen fireman's uniform and approach homeowners, telling them he was going door to door checking smoke detectors. When police finally caught up with him, Kabaluk was still wearing the stolen fireman's uniform.**

**Deputy District Attorney Dawna Frenchie of the Career Criminal Unit prosecuted the case before a Stanislaus County jury in Judge Edward M. Lacy's department. Kabaluk's sentence was based on the fact he had committed more than one residential burglary and had previously been convicted of residential burglary in 1998, which increased his present sentence under state law. Kabaluk had only been out of jail for one month before he committed the current crimes for which he was sentenced.**