



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JAMES C. BRAZELTON
District Attorney

Stanislaus County Courthouse
11th and I Streets
Room 200, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 442, Modesto, CA 95353

(209) 525-5550

FAX: (209) 525-5545

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 24, 2002

Re: **Andrew Tyler Gibson**

For more information contact:

John J. Goold, Chief Deputy D.A.

(209) 525-5550

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Andrew Tyler Gibson has been convicted by a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury of a brutal attack on a 79 year old man. Gibson was found guilty of attempted murder, elder abuse, attempted robbery and assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, all felonies. The jury further found that during the course of these crimes, Gibson acted with premeditation, that he personally inflicted great bodily injury on the victim, and that he personally used a deadly weapon, specifically a knife.

Gibson tried to rob 79 year old Thomas Harrell as he tried to use a bank ATM machine in Oakdale. During the trial, Prosecutor Alan Cassidy urged the jury to pay close attention to the ATM security camera images, which captured the brutal attack as it occurred. The photos were clear enough that the jury could see Gibson's criminal acts and his attempt to slit Harrell's throat.

Cassidy acknowledged the rapid response by the Oakdale Police Department and their subsequent investigation as being crucial to the successful outcome of this case. Several civilian witnesses also saw the attack, and helped police capture Gibson shortly after the crime. Detective Sergeant Vernon Gladney of the Oakdale Police Department commended the citizens for their assistance, saying they were instrumental in the rapid apprehension of Gibson.

Gibson will return to court on June 19th, 2002 to face sentencing before Superior Court Judge Al Girolami. He faces a sentence of life in prison.