

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: September 23, 2008 Re: <u>The People v. Anthony Horton Jr.</u> Case No. 1099335 Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney Phone: (209) 525-5550

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA - Stanislaus County District Attorney, Birgit Fladager, announced today that on September 22, 2008, Anthony Horton, Jr. was sentenced to state prison for 10 years, 8 months after pleading no contest to felony violations of driving under the influence of alcohol causing injury, evading police with reckless driving, and possession of cocaine base. Horton also admitted a prior strike conviction and two prior prison commitments. The Honorable Judge Ricardo Cordova accepted the plea and sentenced Horton to state prison. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey M. Laugero prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on October 13, 2005 in Modesto. Officers of the California Highway Patrol Modesto Office attempted to stop Horton for a traffic violation. Horton drove away from the officers at a high rate of speed, violating numerous traffic safety laws and almost colliding with another vehicle on the road. The pursuit ended when Horton crashed into a brick sound wall, injuring his passenger. Further investigation determined Horton to be under the influence of alcohol, with a blood alcohol level of .11%. A search of Horton after his arrest found cocaine base or "rock cocaine" in his pocket.