

## OFFICE OF THE **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release Date: August 3, 2009

Re: People v. Vicente Mendoza Carrazco

Possession of Methamphetamine Nets 2 Years

In State Prison

For more information contact: Birgit Fladager, District Attorney (209) 525-5550

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced that Vicente Mendoza Carrazco, 54, of Empire, was convicted on August 3, 2009 of Possession of Methamphetamine for Sale. Carrazco also admitted an enhancement to the charge that he was in possession of more than 28.5 grams of methamphetamine.

On June 9, 2006, agents with the Stanislaus Drug Enforcement Agency served a search warrant at the home of Vicente Carrazco in Empire. During their search, agents uncovered approximately one and a half pounds of methamphetamine, over \$17,000 in cash and a digital scale. Agents questioned Carrazco's wife who told them that she and her husband had been selling methamphetamine from their home. Carrazco was arrested hours later in Tuolumne County.

In the days that followed, Carrazco bailed out of Tuolumne County Jail and fled to Mexico. Stanislaus Drug Enforcement agents contacted the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. in an effort to extradite Carrazco back to Stanislaus County. The United States Department of Justice contacted Mexican authorities who then began searching for Carrazco. After eighteen months, Carrazco was captured in January 2009 in Mexico and brought back to Stanislaus County for prosecution.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Donald Shaver sentenced Carrazco to two years in state prison.