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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: June 2, 2009
Re: VEASNA MAN and STEVEN
KOMMAVONG – Men sentenced to state
prison for gang assault.

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Veasna Man, age 26, of Modesto, was convicted on June 2, 2009 of assault likely to cause great bodily injury and admitted that the assault was done for the benefit of his gang. Steven Kommavong, age 28, of Modesto, was also convicted on June 2, 2009 of being an active participant in a gang. Deputy District Attorney Shawn D. Bessey prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on October 22nd, 2008 in the city of Modesto when Man was involved in a verbal dispute with a female victim over an iPod. The dispute turned physical when Man returned with a metal object and hit the female victim and her boyfriend who had come to her aid. Kommavong assisted Man in the assault on the two victims. Both Man and Kommavong are documented members of the "Devils of the North," a Modesto based Asian gang.

Upon entry of the pleas, the Honorable Scott Steffen sentenced Man to six years in state prison and Kommonvong to three years in state prison.

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