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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 26, 2010
Re: Matthew Bench
Conviction for DUI and Resisting
Arrest

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Matthew Bench, age 28, of Oakdale, was convicted after a three-day jury trial of driving under the influence and resisting arrest. Deputy District Attorney Randy Fischer prosecuted the case for the People.

Oakdale officers were called out to a fight at the Cow Track Bar in Oakdale on February 24, 2008, at 1:35 a.m. When they arrived, citizens pointed in the direction that one of the suspects had fled. Officers found Bench parked with his engine running at a nearby residence. The bed of his truck was jutting out into the southbound lane of N. Yosemite Blvd. (Highway 120). When they attempted to contact Bench, he put the truck in gear and drove further into the long dirt driveway of the residence. He then got out and confronted the officers with drunken belligerence. Two officers had to struggle with Bench to handcuff him. His blood alcohol was determined to be .15%.

The Honorable Timothy Salter placed Bench on 3 years informal probation, ordered him to pay specified fines, attend "Driving Under the Influence" school and sentenced him to 25 days in the county jail.

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