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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 10/22/09 **Contact:** Yolo County District Attorney

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Four Men Indicted on Attempted Murder Charges

(Woodland, CA) – District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on October 13, 2009, the Yolo County Grand Jury indicted Mohammed Qumar Ashraf, 29, of Sacramento, Khialluddin Niazi, 69, of West Sacramento, Sarajuddin Niazi, 31, of Union City and Zafaruddin Niazi, 27, of Los Gatos, on several counts including Attempted Murder stemming from events that occurred on March 7, 2004.

On March 7, 2004, the four defendants, three of which are related, went to the residence of one of the victims, along with several other unidentified suspects, armed with baseball bats. While at the residence, all four defendants took part in assaulting four victims. Three of the victims required medical attention. The assault allegedly took place after one of the victims made remarks in support of the United States and its role in ousting the Taliban from power in Afghanistan.

After the Indictment was issued by the Grand Jury, Judge Janet Gaard issued arrest warrants for all defendants. Subsequently, over the objection of the District Attorney's Office, the four defendants were released on their own recognizance by Judge Arvid Johnson after he ordered the defendants to surrender their passports. The arraignment on the Indictment is currently scheduled for November 20, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in Dept. 4.

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