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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 30, 2010 **Contact:** Steve Mount, Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney
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Parolee convicted of West Sacramento burglary

(Woodland, CA) – July 2, 2010 - District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on July 1, 2010, a Yolo County Superior Court jury convicted 39- year old Elbert Brown, a Sacramento parolee, of First Degree Burglary, Conspiracy to Commit First Degree Burglary and Obstructing a Peace Officer in the performance of His Duties, for a March 14, 2010 burglary of a home in West Sacramento.

Two days before the burglary Brown had been paid to help the homeowner move into her new house. The homeowner hired someone that she worked with to help her and that individual brought Brown, who was introduced as his cousin, along to help. The following day, the victim noticed that seven of her windows had been unlocked. Sometime after 11:00 p.m. on the night of March 14th, Brown returned to the residence with 18-year-old Cameron Caulk. The victim, home alone in the house, was asleep when she was awakened by her doorbell. As she looked through the peephole she saw Caulk repeatedly ringing her doorbell and could see another person behind him (Brown). She did not answer the door. The victim then heard the two in her backyard and could see their shadows as they walked around to several windows. A porch light illuminated the pair as they moved around the backyard however, as they began removing screens from several windows, the porch light went out. The victim was hiding in her bathroom on the phone with 911 when she heard glass breaking in her kitchen. Officers arrived shortly thereafter but Brown and Caulk had left the scene. Responding officers discovered that several window screens had been removed and the light bulbs in two backyard porch lights had been unscrewed.

A West Sacramento Police Officer located the two as they were attempting to drive out of the area. Brown, on parole for burglary, fled. He was located with the assistance of a Sacramento Police Department helicopter and a West Sacramento Police Department Canine Officer as he hid in a nearby backyard.

During the jury trial the jury heard the victim describe the events. Brown then testified and told the jury that he only went to the victim's house because he had a dispute about how much money he had been paid by his cousin. He felt that it would be fine to drop by the victim's house at 11:30 that night because she had been nice to him while they were helping her move.

Prior to Brown's trial Caulk plead no contest to a First Degree Burglary and Conspiracy to Commit Burglary after being promised probation by the Court. Brown, who has an extensive criminal history involving several state prison commitments for theft related offenses, faces the possibility of 11 years in state prison. He will be sentenced by the Honorable Judge Rosenberg on July 29, 2010.

District Attorney Jeff Reisig commended the courage of the victim and the good work of the West Sacramento Police Department. "Residential burglary is a serious offense under California law. When a victim is home at the time of the crime, the seriousness and danger of the crime are dramatically increased. We will remain committed to sending burglars like this to prison."

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