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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jury Finds Sacramento Man Guilty of 2009 Gang Beating in West Sacramento
Witness watches as attacker removes victim's tooth from his fist

(Woodland, CA) – October 14, 2010- District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that on October 13, 2010, a Yolo County jury convicted twenty-year-old Michael Rene Romero of North Sacramento of attempted murder with premeditation, gang enhancements, attempted robbery and other felony charges for a 2009 street beating that occurred in West Sacramento.

The forty-seven year old victim was attacked by Romero and another gang member in the early morning hours of January 21, 2009. A Good Samaritan who was driving by the attack testified that the victim was being savagely beaten on the ground by the two men. He courageously turned his truck around and interrupted the attack. The beating left the victim comatose in the street. As a result of the attack, the victim suffered permanent physical injuries and mental disabilities.

Another witness testified that minutes later she saw Romero remove one of the victim's teeth from his hand. Romero was arrested about a month later in Sacramento County. His accomplice Antonio Delgado was arrested by West Sacramento Police officers about ten days after the beating. A jury convicted Delgado of attempted murder and other charges earlier this year. West Sacramento Police Officer Michael Duggins testified at trial that these brutal attacks by gang members enhance their reputations and instill fear in the community.

District Attorney Jeff Reisig said, "It is brutal gang cases such as this that vividly demonstrate the terror that criminal street gangs bring to our communities. Thankfully, a brave citizen stopped to intervene before the victim was killed."

Sentencing is set for November 10th, 2010 before the Honorable Judge Stephen Mock. Romero faces a potential sentence of life in prison.

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