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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Sacramento Gang Member Sentenced to Life in Prison for 2009 Gang Beating
Witness watched as defendant removed victim's tooth from his fist**

(Woodland, CA) – November 10, 2010- District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that Yolo County Superior Court Judge Stephen Mock sentenced twenty-year-old Michael Rene Romero of North Sacramento to 28 years and eight months to life in state prison. After a lengthy trial, a jury convicted Romero of attempted murder with premeditation, gang enhancements, and other felony charges for a 2009 street beating that occurred in West Sacramento.

A concerned citizen interrupted the attack as he was driving down West Capitol Avenue at around three in the morning. The beating left the victim lying in the street and in a coma. Had it not been for the Good Samaritan, the victim probably would have been killed. As a result of the attack, he did suffer permanent injuries.

Minutes after the attack, a witness watched as Romero removed one of the victim's teeth from his hand. West Sacramento Police arrested Romero and his accomplice, Antonio Delgado. A jury convicted Delgado of attempted murder and other charges earlier this year. West Sacramento Police Officer Michael Duggins testified at trial that these types of brutal attacks are conducted by gang members to enhance their reputations and promote criminal activity by gangs.

During the pronouncement of Romero's sentence, Judge Mock said it was one of the most senseless and violent crimes he had seen in his judicial career. Judge Mock has been a trial judge for 20 years and has presided over hundreds of jury trials

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