



**JEFF W. REISIG  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**COUNTY OF YOLO**

301 SECOND STREET  
WOODLAND, CA 95695  
(530) 666-8180  
FAX: (530) 666-8423

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Ann Hurd, 666-8180**

**FIRST DEGREE MURDER PLEA FOR VICIOUS STABBING**

November 19, 2008  
Woodland, CA –

Jose David Madrigal, 25, of Sacramento, pled guilty to a charge of First Degree Murder in the stabbing death of a thirty-nine year old woman. The plea occurred after a jury had been selected to hear the case in Department 3 of the Yolo County Superior Court.

On July 8, 2007 the victim, Alexandra Cerda, had attended a party at a residence in Sacramento where Madrigal and a friend of his were also present. Ms. Cerda left the residence around 10 p.m. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Madrigal and his friend drove to Ms. Cerda's location and offered her a ride. After picking her up, Madrigal began a vicious attack upon Ms. Cerda.

While still in the Sacramento area, the victim was stabbed over one hundred times with a knife and died of her wounds. Madrigal and his friend then drove to Yolo County and dumped her body in some brush on the side of the River Road. On July 9, 2007, Ms. Cerda's body was discovered by a probation officer who happened to see her lying on the side of the road.

District Attorney Jeff Reisig commented, "It is not unusual for criminals to begin their acts in one county and end them in another. When a heinous crime of this nature occurs, our office will collaborate with our law enforcement partners in other counties to ensure that justice is done."

Madrigal faces a sentence of 25 years to life. He will be sentenced on January 9, 2009 in Yolo County Superior Court.

For questions relating to this press release, please contact Ann Hurd (530) 666-8180.

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