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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Yolo County's Own "To Catch a Predator" Sentenced to Prison and Lifetime Sex Offender Registration

(Woodland, CA) – December 31, 2008 - On December 30, 2008, the Honorable Thomas Warriner sentenced Todd Robert Dixon, 40, of Elk Grove, to 3 years state prison and lifetime sex offender registration for soliciting a seventeen year-old girl in West Sacramento to have sex with him in exchange for money on December 27, 2007. Dixon faced a maximum of 6 years in prison.

On August 11, 2008, a Yolo County jury convicted Dixon of the crime of pandering for his actions approximately one-year ago. Since Dixon was convicted of this sex offense with a minor, he has remained out of custody on bail and continued his employment with the United Parcel Service (UPS). Despite Dixon's plea to the court for probation, and his plea to remain out on bail, Judge Warriner immediately remanded Dixon into custody after the conclusion of today's sentencing hearing.

On December 27, 2007, Dixon solicited his friend's seventeen year-old stepdaughter to have sex with him by sending her a text message which read, "U with me 1 Night 200 or More." The seventeen year-old girl immediately notified her parents about Dixon's solicitation and her stepfather notified the West Sacramento Police Department.

The West Sacramento Police Department Community Response Team and Yolo County District Attorney Investigators created a game plan to catch Dixon. Very much like the NBC television show, "To Catch a Predator," law enforcement used an undercover officer to respond to the text message Dixon sent to the seventeen year-old's cell phone. Ultimately, law enforcement arrested Dixon at a Motel 6 in West Sacramento where Dixon was waiting to pay this seventeen year-old girl to have sex with him. Ironically, when the officers went inside the motel room they saw Dixon had been watching the NBC television show "To Catch a Predator." Officers also found beer and sexual lubricant inside the motel room.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Tiffany Susz who works in the Special Victims Unit prosecuting child sexual assaults at the Yolo County District Attorney's Office. According to Deputy District Attorney Susz, "We are pleased the court sentenced Dixon to prison and imposed lifetime sex offender registration. The prison sentence in this case will keep this predator off our streets for at least 3 years. And after his release from prison, the lifetime registration requirement is important to ensure our community's awareness of this sex offender living among us."

For more information, contact Chief Deputy District Attorney Ann Hurd at 530-666-8180.

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