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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GANG MEMBERS CONVICTED OF AMTRAK ATTACK

Woodland, 1/9/09 – Yolo County Superior Court Judge Timothy Fall sentenced three members of the Broderick Boys criminal street gang for crimes stemming from a 2006 attack on Amtrak train employees. Austen Nunes, 19; and Paliton Nunes, 20, residents of West Sacramento, were sentenced on eleven felony charges including attempted manslaughter, assault with deadly weapons on train employees, great bodily injury, throwing an object at a train, vandalism and belonging to a street gang, plus two misdemeanor charges of assault on public transportation property. Austen Nunes was also sentenced for attempted robbery. Austen Nunes received nine (9) years in state prison for his role in the attacks. Pauliton Nunes received nine (9) years and four (4) months in state prison for the crimes in this case, as well as for a prior felony assault from 2005.

Daniel Bonge, 19, also of West Sacramento, was sentenced on 10 felony counts including assault with deadly weapons on train employee, great bodily injury, throwing an object at a train, vandalism and belonging to a street gang, plus the two misdemeanor assaults on public transportation property. He received a sentence of eight (8) years and four (4) months in state prison.

The crimes occurred on April 16, 2006, in West Sacramento. All five defendants, who are members of the Broderick Boys criminal street gang, had spent the day partying and drinking. After they ran out of alcohol, they went to the Lighthouse Market in West Sacramento and stole five cases of beer. They took the beer across the railroad tracks and continued drinking. At 10:30 p.m., as an Amtrak Capitol Corridor train was traveling through West Sacramento, one of the defendants stood on the tracks in front of the train, causing it to slow down. Another defendant hurled a rock at the engineer, striking him in the head. When the engineer got off the train to disperse the trespassers, two of the defendants began to pelt him with rocks. At about the same time, a third defendant came up behind the engineer with a large rock in his hand. The engineer asked him if he was

going to throw a punch. When this perpetrator refused to answer and kept approaching him, the engineer, fearing for his safety and the safety of the passengers and crew, punched the suspect in the face. The conductor then came off the train with a fire extinguisher and sprayed the assailants to get them to leave. Immediately, the defendants began attacking both the conductor and the engineer. The conductor managed to retreat back into the train and the engineer found himself surrounded by all five defendants. After he asked them, "Don't kill me", they proceeded to strike him in the head with rocks, the fire extinguisher, and a bottle of Grey Goose Vodka. One of the defendants then demanded the engineer's wallet and cell phone. The attackers were unsuccessful at getting the engineer's property and fled the scene.

Yolo County Deputy District Attorney Jay Linden stated, "Several violent offenders will be off the streets for the foreseeable future. Hopefully the victims in this case can find some closure and heal. Hopefully the perpetrators will have learned something as well."

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

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