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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 4, 2009 **Contact:** Ann Hurd, Chief Deputy District Attorney
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Convicted Murderer Gets Life Without Parole for 2001 Double Homicide

(Woodland, CA) – June 4, 2009 Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced that on June 2, 2009, a Yolo County jury decided that 30 year old Faustino Romero, of Woodland, should spend the rest of his life in prison, without the possibility of parole, for two murders that he committed in 2001.

On April 30, 2009, the same jury convicted Romero of two counts of first degree murder, three counts of attempted first degree murder, kidnapping for robbery, robbery, burglary, assault with a firearm, false imprisonment, and spousal abuse. The jury also found true seven special circumstances, related to the two murders that mandated either a term of life in prison without the possibility of parole, or the death penalty.

On March 11, 2001, Romero and another man opened fire on four men who were outside of a residence on Sixth Street in Woodland. One of those men, Javier Aguilar, was killed. Two others were seriously wounded and one escaped injury. The shooting was in retaliation for a shooting that occurred the night before involving members of opposing gangs.

On April 18, 2001, Romero kidnapped Charles Smythe from the town of Gridley and drove him to County Road 17 in Yolo County, where he shot him and slit his throat. That killing was determined to be a murder-for-hire.

Romero will be sentenced on July 15, 2009. For more information contact Ann Hurd at (530) 666-8180.

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