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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: February 1, 2012  
Re: Christopher Lewis Armstrong

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Christopher Lewis Armstrong, age 29, of Modesto was convicted on January 24, 2012 of Forcible Rape and Sexual Battery. Deputy District Attorney Beth O'Hara Owen prosecuted the case for the People.

On January 5, 2011, two 14-year-old girls were walking on Colfax Avenue in Modesto when they were approached by two men driving a Chevrolet Avalanche. The young teens voluntarily got into Armstrong's car and were provided alcohol and became intoxicated.

One of the girls was assaulted and then dragged out of the vehicle. Once she realized the danger they were in, she began to yell and escaped. Armstrong went back to the vehicle and drove away with the second girl. The victim who had been dragged out of the vehicle flagged down a passer-by to call 911 for help, indicating her friend was being held against her will in the SUV. The victim who was still in the SUV was taken by Armstrong to an orchard where she was brutally raped, choked and beaten. Later that afternoon, while detectives were speaking to the first victim, the second victim was found at El Vista Avenue and Edgebrook Drive, not far from where the girls were initially picked up.

Upon entry of the no contest plea, the Honorable Linda McFadden sentenced Armstrong to 12 years in state prison.

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