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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: December 5, 2011

Re: James Kenneth Bridgeford III

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that James Kenneth Bridgeford III, age 39, of Modesto, was convicted of bringing controlled substances into the county jail, a felony. Bridgeford also admitted having served three prior separate terms in state prison. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey M. Laugero prosecuted the case for the People.

On July 20, 2011, state parole agents arrested Bridgeford at his residence for a parole violation. After his arrest, Bridgeford denied being in possession any contraband. A further search of Bridgeford during the booking process at the county jail revealed methamphetamine and marijuana concealed on Bridgeford.

Judge Ricardo Cordova sentenced Bridgeford to five years in state prison. However, under California's new "realignment" legislation, Bridgeford is now ineligible to be housed in state prison for the current conviction even though he was sentenced to multiple years in prison. He will serve his custody time at the county jail. This commitment will still, however, be considered a prior prison sentence enhancement for any future felony convictions Bridgeford may suffer.

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