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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS BANOS DRUG DEALERS CONVICTED

A jury of six men and six women convicted Los Banos residents Mellon C. Moseley and Lisa Davis on Friday of possession of methamphetamine for sale and maintaining a residence where drugs are used or sold. The jury also convicted Moseley of being a felon in possession of ammunition, according to Deputy District Attorney James Martin, who prosecuted the case. Following the jury's verdicts, Superior Court Judge John D. Kiriara, who presided over the trial, found that Moseley, 58, suffered a prior drug trafficking conviction and that Davis, 42, has a prior "strike" conviction. The prior convictions will likely result in longer sentences for both defendants, Martin said.

Law enforcement became aware of Moseley and Davis after receiving several reports from concerned citizens that drug dealing was occurring at 722 "D" Street in Los Banos. Using the information, the Merced Multi - Agency Drug Task Force obtained a search warrant for the residence. Agents from the Task Force contacted Moseley as he arrived at the residence, and located a methamphetamine pipe and a live .40 caliber cartridge on Moseley's person. Upon entering the residence, agents located several separately packaged bags of crystal methamphetamine, 2 gram scales, and numerous unused coin baggies. In addition, agents located another methamphetamine pipe next to Davis. Expert testimony established that the number of baggies of methamphetamine, and the presence of scales and packaging material are consistent with drug trafficking.

Martin praised the jury's verdict, noting that the ongoing sales of methamphetamine by Moseley and Davis have now been halted. "These two individuals were dealing methamphetamine to four to five people per day," Martin said. "Thanks to alert citizens in the community, they have now been stopped," Martin added. Kiriara will sentence Moseley and Davis on March 2, 2007.