



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Feb. 14, 2011

Contact: Deputy District Attorney Arnie Klein
Phone: 707-268-2584

Coen Acknowledges Responsibility for July 2, 2010 Shooting

On Monday, Feb. 14, 2011, Michael Coen changed his plea from not guilty to guilty when he pleaded no contest to assault with a deadly weapon.

The charges stemmed from a shooting that occurred on July 2, 2010. He has also admitted to the special allegations of use of a firearm and inflicting great bodily injury. In addition, Coen admitted to a prior "strike" as defined by the California Three Strikes Law.

Under the terms of the agreement, Coen waived his right to an appeal and will be sentenced to state prison for a minimum of ten years to a maximum of 21 years. Because Coen was convicted of a violent offense, he will be required to serve at least 85 percent of his sentence, which will be handed down by Judge Bruce Watson on March 28, 2011.

Prosecuting Deputy District Attorney Arnie Klein said: "The successful prosecution of this case is due, in large part, to the cooperative efforts of various law enforcement agencies and the contribution made by local citizens in catching and apprehending Mr. Coen,"

Jury selection was about to begin on the July 2, 2010 incident when Coen entered his plea. "I want to, especially, acknowledge the members of the community who sacrificed their time by coming in for jury selection," noted District Attorney Paul Gallegos. "The accused often delays the process until he or she understands that the community is there to render judgment."