



Department of Justice

United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott
Eastern District of California

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, November 12, 2008
www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae
Docket #: 1:08-CR-00049

CONTACT: Lauren Horwood
PHONE: (916) 554-2706
lauren.horwood@usdoj.gov

**MODESTO MAN SENTENCED TO NEARLY NINE YEARS IN PRISON
FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS POSSESSION AND DRUG TRAFFICKING**

FRESNO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that JESUS ARREDONDO OTANEZ, 39, of Modesto, was sentenced Friday, Nov. 7, 2008 by United States District Judge Lawrence J. O’Neill to eight years and 10 months in prison. The defendant pleaded guilty on August 15, 2008 to possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense and possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

This case is the product of an extensive joint investigation of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Stanislaus County District Attorney’s Office, and the Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Kimberly A. Sanchez, who prosecuted the case, the charges resulted after a Stanislaus County sheriff’s deputy conducted a traffic stop and saw ARREDONDO driving in spite of knowing that he had a suspended driver’s license and an outstanding warrant. ARREDONDO was in possession of a loaded .32 caliber handgun and two plastic bags containing 43.66 grams of methamphetamine and other paraphernalia.

“This case is a prime example of how a great cop made the difference. The Stanislaus County Sheriff’s deputy who stopped Arredondo is credited with taking an armed drug trafficker off the streets. ATF is proud to be partners with Stanislaus County,” said ATF Acting Special Agent In Charge Michael P. Gleysteen.

###