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To: All news media serving Mendocino County
From: District Attorney C. David Eyster

NEWS RELEASE: James Renick sentenced to 7 years in state prison for car chase.

Case: SCUJ-CRCR-10-12616

Defendant: James Moses Renick, Jr. 30, of Coyote Valley.

Judge: Honorable Richard Henderson

Prosecutor: Brian Newman, Deputy District Attorney

Defense Attorney: Kristine Burk

Summary: On May 21, 2010, Sheriff's deputies Tim Goss and Darren Brewster saw a Ford SUV being driven recklessly on North State Street in Calpella. They made a traffic stop. The Ford, after initially pulling over, sped off when the two deputies got out of their car and approached. The deputies recognized the driver as James Renick and knew there was a parole warrant for his arrest.

The pursuit continued at high speed from Calpella to the Coyote Valley Rancheria. When he got to the Rancheria, Renick stopped the SUV and ran down a steep embankment. The deputies continued the chase and one was injured because of the rough terrain.

Renick got away initially, but was arrested a few days later at the home of his girlfriend. Renick had five children, ages 5 – 7 years, as passengers during the chase.

District Attorney David Eyster said this was a prison case because of Mr. Renick's record and the danger Renick placed the children, the public, and the officers in when he refused to stop his vehicle.