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PRESS RELEASE

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8 YEAR SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR RECKLESS EVADING

Shasta County Superior Court Judge Wilson Curle sentenced 35 year-old Travis Alexander Hill today to 8 years in state prison following his conviction on a felony charge of Evading a Peace Officer with Willful and Wanton Disregard for Safety. Hill was found guilty on February 28 following a 3 day jury trial. His sentence was aggravated because of a 1990 felony "strike" conviction for domestic violence causing great bodily injury and four additional special allegations for having served four separate prison terms. Besides the prior domestic violence conviction, Hill has also previously been convicted of numerous felonies including attempted auto theft in 1995, possession of a controlled substance in 1996, and battery on a peace office causing injury in 2000.

The crime occurred at shortly after 8:00 a.m., on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, when Redding Police Officers Robert Garner and Duane Morrison attempted to stop a pick-up truck driven by Hill for traffic violations. At the time, Hill was a parolee at large with a pending warrant for his arrest. In the truck with Hill was passenger Glenda Propp, who also had five pending arrest warrants. Hill led the officers on an approximately seven mile pursuit in which he initially fled northbound on Interstate 5 from the Cypress Avenue interchange, weaving through morning traffic and passing a tractor trailer on the right shoulder. Shortly before reaching the Twin View Boulevard exit, Hill suddenly made a sharp turn across the center median and into the southbound lanes of the interstate, with the patrol car in pursuit. Hill continued southbound until swerving in front of another big rig and exiting at westbound Highway 44. The chase concluded when Hill approached heavy morning traffic in downtown Redding and he pulled over on Liberty Street.

Under the "three strikes" law, as a recidivist felon Hill must serve 80% of the sentence before he will be eligible for parole. Hill also faces additional felony charges in Tehama County for unrelated drug offenses.

The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Brian Popkes.