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PRESS RELEASE

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REDDING MAN FACING 20 YEARS IN PRISON FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A 30 year-old Redding man was convicted yesterday by a Shasta County jury of two felony charges of causing corporal injury to a spouse and a single charge of making a criminal threats. William Ray Palmer, Jr. was found guilty after a four-day jury trial in Superior Court. The case involved two separate incidents of abuse against his pregnant wife of two years.

On March 21, 2008, during an argument at the couple's Redding home, the defendant pulled the pregnant victim out of their car by her hair, then got inside. When she tried to reach for the keys, the defendant slammed the door on her arm and hand, then pushed her down and drove away. A neighbor called police who found bruising and abrasions to the victim's hand, wrist, and arm.

On 4/21/08, the defendant and victim argued again at their home. During the argument, the defendant kicked the victim in the thigh and stomped on her bare foot. He then threatened to cut her throat. The victim fled to a neighbor's house and called her mother who then called police. Redding police responded to find a welt on her thigh and swelling on her foot.

Jurors also heard evidence of prior domestic violence and threats committed by the defendant against his current wife as well as a former girlfriend.

Palmer has prior felony convictions for theft by access card (1996); escape (1996); making criminal threats (2000); felon in possession of a firearm (2001). He was also previously convicted a misdemeanor charge of domestic violence in 2001.

Based on the new conviction and his prior record, he faces up to 20 years in prison at sentencing before the Honorable Judge Wilson Curle.

The case is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Brian Popkes and was investigated by Redding Police officers Boupon Konkeoviman and Brian Moore, with assistance from DA investigators Mike Wallace and Jeremy Duval and victim advocate Deborah McKinnon.