BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE	**:**	**May 19, 2010**
RELEASED BY	**:**	**Sgt. Derek Bell**
CONTACT #	**:**	**538-7321**

On 05-19-10 at 1:45 p.m. a reporting party called the Butte County Sheriff's Office stating that he had just received a phone call from a subject advising him that people were holding his brother hostage and if the reporting party did not pay them $1,000, they would kill his brother. Further investigation by Sheriff's Deputies and Detectives revealed that the subject who had called the reporting party, making threats to harm his brother, was 33 year old Horacio Medrano Soria. It was also determined that the reporting party's brother was allegedly being held at an address on Powell Ridge Rd. in Forbestown and that Horacio Soria was at an address on Hoover St. in Oroville.

Sheriff's Deputies and Detectives responded to the residence in Oroville in an attempt to contact Soria and the residence in Forbestown in an attempt to rescue the reporting party's brother. The brother was located at the Forbestown residence, was not being held against his will and was unharmed. Soria was subsequently taken into custody after he was located inside a vehicle in the driveway at the Oroville residence. At the time Soria was contacted, he was found to be in possession of a loaded firearm.

Soria was later booked on charges of attempted extortion, being armed with a firearm in the commission of a felony, carrying a concealed firearm, being a felon in possession of a firearm and participating in a crime related to a criminal street gang. Soria's bail was set at $145,000.