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****PRESS RELEASE****

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**TWO LOS ANGELES MEN CONVICTED OF RESISTING ARREST
FOLLOWING LAKERS' NBA CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORY**

LOS ANGELES – Two Los Angeles men were convicted of resisting arrest following the celebration of the Lakers' basketball championship in June 2010. The case was successfully prosecuted by Deputy City Attorney Brad Rothenberg of the City Attorney's Criminal Division.

Marco Aguilar and Maximo Ruiz each entered a no contest plea to one count of resisting an officer and were sentenced by Judge Yvette Verastegui to 36 months probation and 60 days jail or 45 days Caltrans work. Each of the defendants was also ordered to attend anger management classes as well as stay away from the Staples Center and the area of Olympic Blvd and Flower Street for the duration of his probation.

On June 17, 2010, following the Lakers' victory, Aguilar and Ruiz were part of a mob that surrounded LAPD officers as they were arresting a vandalism suspect. Both defendants refused to step back when instructed and began yelling, swearing, pushing and swinging at officers. Officers were also knocked down and punched in the face as they attempted to arrest the defendants.

Aguilar and Ruiz were two of at least 45 people arrested on June 17, 2010, in the area immediately outside of the Staples Center Arena following the Lakers' NBA Championship win. The City Attorney's Office has secured convictions against 16 individuals, for crimes including inciting a riot, disturbing the peace, resisting arrest, throwing objects at a vehicle, vandalism, arson, assault on a police officer, battery, and public intoxication.

The convictions of Aguilar and Ruiz are expected to be the final two cases stemming from the Lakers' incident.

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