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**PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: December 18, 2008

Assistant District Attorney

Re: James Lee Amador

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Auto Thief Sentenced to 20 Months in Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that James Lee Amador, age 33, of Riverbank, was sentenced by the Honorable Scott Steffen to 20 months in state prison after he pled guilty to auto theft and attempted burglary. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on June 7, 2008 when Amador stole a white 1996 Jetta from the parking lot of the Taco Bell in Riverbank. The car was recovered five days later with the victim's property still inside.

Stanislaus County residents can report suspected vehicle theft activity to their local law enforcement agency or contact the Stanislaus County Auto-Theft Task Force (STANCATT) at: (209) 545-7316.

**IF YOU OBSERVE A THEFT IN PROGRESS, DIAL 911**

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