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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: December 8, 2008
Re: Sye Tefertiller-
Proposition 36-mandated drug program
terminated on Auto Thief who is then
sentenced to sixteen months in state prison

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Sye Tefertiller, age 27, of Modesto, was sentenced by the Honorable Thomas Zeff to sixteen months in state prison after he was convicted of auto theft and evading a peace officer. The defendant had been on Proposition 36 drug treatment probation stemming from an August 20, 2008 conviction when he committed the new offenses. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on November 29, 2008 when the defendant was driving a 1990 GMC pick-up which had been reported stolen hours before from Gunderson Rail Services in Empire. When a Sheriff's deputy tried to pull the defendant over, the defendant accelerated away. After a short pursuit, Tefertiller was arrested after he crashed the pick-up into a utility pole.

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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