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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact:

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Date: March 27, 2009

Re: Timothy Soloman Geren

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Auto Thief Sentenced to 4 Years Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Timothy Soloman Geren, age 29, of Modesto, was convicted of auto theft and driving under the influence of alcohol. Geren also admitted having a prior auto theft conviction, and having served a prior prison term in July 2002 following a conviction for 2nd degree burglary for which he is still on parole. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on March 13, 2008 at around 2:00 a.m. in the area of Crows Landing Road in Modesto when the defendant was observed driving a 1988 blue Chevy Blazer that had not yet been reported stolen. After pulling Geren over for exhibition of speed, Sheriff's deputies observed that the ignition was punched and the steering column was damaged. Geren indicated that he received the vehicle from a friend but did not have any contact information for him. The deputies also observed that Geren displayed signs of intoxication. A breath alcohol test revealed that Geren had a .15/.14 blood alcohol level. After deputies made contact with the registered owner, they discovered that the vehicle had been stolen hours before while the owner was asleep.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Thomas Zeff sentenced Geren to four years in state prison.

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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