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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 31, 2009
Re: Michael Hutson
16 months prison for Grand Theft

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Michael Hutson, age 27, of Modesto, was convicted on July 31, 2009 of Grand Theft. Deputy District Attorney Claire Arno prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on March 24, 2009 in Empire. The victim, a 41-year-old long haul truck driver, new to town, met two females late one evening at a Jack in the Box. He agreed to meet up with the women later to "just hang out." The women picked the victim up where the victim parked his rig for the evening. They drove to a small residence in Empire because one of the females needed to retrieve something. All three entered the residence where Hutson and another male were waiting. Hutson and the other male confronted the victim with some type of long objects (such as sticks or bats) and took the victim's clothes, telephone and keys. The victim ran naked to a nearby gas station. Police arrived and took the victim to where his rig was parked. Hutson, the other male and the women were all seen pulling way from the victim's truck with some of the victim's items in their vehicle. The women and the other male all pled guilty and were sentenced to 365 days in jail. Hutson also pled guilty and was sentenced to 16 months in state prison. Hutson had previously served a prior prison term.

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