



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County

832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354

Mailing: P. O. Box 442, Modesto, CA 95353
Phone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Carol Shipley
Assistant District Attorney

Chief Deputy District Attorneys

Jerry Begen

Alan Cassidy

Dave Harris

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: June 23, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Vanessa Muhammad

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief Sentenced to
Two Years in State Prison

Modesto, California Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Vanessa Muhammad, age 28, of Modesto was convicted of auto theft. Muhammad is currently on parole for assault using force likely to cause great bodily injury. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on June 15, 2009 at approximately 4:30 p.m. in the area of East Hatch Road and Herndon Road in Ceres, when a Ceres Police Officer observed Muhammad driving a 1996 gray Lexus 300 that had been reported out of Vallejo that morning. After pulling Muhammad over, she claimed that the registered owner traded the car for a \$20 piece of crack cocaine. Muhammad has served one prior prison term.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Donald Shaver sentenced Muhammad to two 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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