



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: September 30, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: William Lee Munson

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief Sentenced to 4 Years Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that William Lee Munson, age 25, of Modesto, was convicted on September 30, 2009 of auto theft and possession of an explosive device. Munson also admitted a prior auto theft conviction from March 2005 for which he served time in prison and for which he is currently on parole. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On August 19, 2009 at approximately 10:30 p.m. in the area of W. Rumble and McHenry Avenue in Modesto, a Modesto police officer observed Munson driving a 1993 faded gray Honda Accord. The vehicle had been reported stolen the night before while the owner was at football practice at Modesto Junior College. After stopping the vehicle, the officer observed visible damage to the vehicle ignition. The officer also observed a homemade bomb in the driver's door pocket which was later disposed of by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Bomb Squad.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Nancy Ashley sentenced Munson 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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