



OFFICE OF THE
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: October 31, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Casey Kalani Nahinu

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Auto Thief Sentenced to
2 Years in Prison

Modesto, California Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Casey Kalani Nahinu, age 27, of Turlock, was convicted of auto theft and resisting arrest. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On August 1, 2009 at approximately 11:00 a.m., at the 76 gas station on E. Whitmore Avenue in Ceres, officers observed Nahinu slumped over the steering wheel of a 1996 blue Chevy Corsica. The car had been reported stolen out of Modesto the night before. When officers approached Nahinu and tried to arrest him, Nahinu resisted. After a brief struggle, Nahinu was handcuffed. Nahinu claimed that he was walking home the previous evening when he saw the vehicle parked in the orchard with the keys in the ignition, so he took it.

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

The District Attorney's Office urges citizens not to leave their keys in unattended vehicle no matter how brief.

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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