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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: January 30, 2009
Re: John Van Lier - Theft and Drugs net 16
months in state prison

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that John Van Lier, age 39, of Modesto, was convicted of committing petty theft with a prior theft conviction and possessing methamphetamine, felonies. Deputy District Attorney Carolyn Matzger prosecuted the cases for the People.

On November 15, 2008, Van Lier was in WalMart in Modesto. He concealed \$158 worth of memory chips and batteries in his clothing and left the store without paying. He had previously been convicted of theft offenses. On January 14, 2009, an officer found that Van Lier had a baggie of methamphetamine in the coin pocket in his pants.

Upon entry of the guilty pleas, the Honorable John Whiteside sentenced defendant to 16 months in state prison in each case, to be served concurrently.

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