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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: October 21, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Steven Shane Pittman
Auto Thief Gets
Two Years, Eight Months Prison

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Steven Shane Pittman, age 21, of Modesto, was convicted on October 21, 2010 of auto theft and forgery. Pittman also admitted a prior auto theft conviction from November 2007 for which he was still on probation. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On April 8, 2010, Pittman went inside the Union Bank on Oakdale Road in Modesto and cashed his friend's check for \$280 by forging his friend's signature.

On June 24, 2010 at approximately 6:35 a.m., an officer was dispatched to a non-injury vehicle collision in the area of Yosemite Boulevard and Claus Road in Modesto. When the officer arrived, he observed a 1974 orange Chevy pick-up truck that had hit another vehicle. A witness called 911 after he observed Pittman run from the disabled truck and hide underneath a nearby trailer. When the officer arrived, Pittman was found hiding. The owner of the truck did not know someone had stolen his truck from his driveway in Waterford.

The Honorable Scott Steffen sentenced Pittman to two years and eight months 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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