



OFFICE OF THE
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: March 29, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Patrick Leon Robinson
Auto Thief Sentenced to
4 Years, 4 Months Prison

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Patrick Leon Robinson, age 28, of Waterford, was convicted on March 29, 2010 of auto theft, burglary and possession of a firearm by a felon. Robinson had previously been convicted of burglary in Texas in September 2000. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On February 20, 2010 at around 10:00 a.m., a deputy was dispatched to investigate a burglary that had occurred during the night at the office of Cavanagh's Flying Service in Waterford. Although numerous drawers had been rifled through and their contents scattered on the floor, the reporting party indicated that only a unique \$2 bill was missing. Acting on a tip, the deputy located the unique \$2 bill in Robinson's possession. Robinson claimed that he broke into the business to use the phone, and when he saw the \$2 bill he took it because "you never know when you're going to need two dollars." After being arrested, Robinson posted bail for his release from custody.

On March 14, 2010 at approximately 3:30 a.m. in the area of I Street and 12th Street in Modesto, an officer observed Robinson driving a 1966 white Ford Mustang that had been reported stolen just hours before from the area of Tully Road and Orangeburg Avenue. Robinson's girlfriend was in the passenger seat. After performing a traffic stop, Robinson stated that he saw the unlocked Mustang and decided to hot wire it since he and his girlfriend needed a ride to get to Oklahoma. The officer observed that the car had several luggage bags that belonged to Robinson and his girlfriend. The officer also located a loaded sawed-off shotgun with the names "Bonnie" and "Clyde" scratched in the side of the wooden stock. Robinson then stated that he bought the shotgun from someone on the street. The officer found a camera with images of Robinson and his girlfriend posing with the shotgun and wearing a mask.

The Honorable John Whiteside sentenced Robinson to four years and four months in state prison.

The District Attorney's Office urges citizens to always keep the doors to their cars locked.

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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