



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: November 23, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Jason Joseph Rocha
Auto Thief Sentenced to
16 Months in Prison

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jason Joseph Rocha, age 27, of Turlock, was convicted of auto theft and resisting arrest. Rocha is currently on parole for theft stemming from a July 2009 conviction. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On September 28, 2010 at approximately midnight in the area of Clifford Avenue and Flower Street in Turlock, an officer observed Rocha driving a 2001 green Nissan Quest. When Rocha saw the officer, Rocha quickly stopped the vehicle, jumped out and ran. The officer recognized Rocha from previous contacts. The vehicle was towed since it was blocking the entrance to a parking lot. A glass methamphetamine smoking pipe was located inside the vehicle. Later that morning, the owner of the vehicle reported it as stolen. A warrant of arrest was issued against Rocha.

On October 1, 2010 at approximately 3:00 p.m. in the area of West Main Street in Turlock, an officer was performing a routine traffic stop on a vehicle with a defective brake light. After the vehicle stopped, Rocha, who was a passenger, jumped out of the passenger seat and ran, but was caught a short distance away.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable John Freeland sentenced Rocha to sixteen 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

###