



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: March 8, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Dennis Francis Weston Jr
Auto Thief Sentenced to
5 Years

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Dennis Francis Weston Jr, age 38, of Modesto, was convicted on March 8, 2010 of auto theft. The defendant also admitted having served a prior prison term for passing a forged check from March 2006 and auto theft from October 2008 for which he is currently on parole. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On January 27, 2010 at approximately 1:46 p.m., in the area of W. Hatch Road and Dallas Street in Modesto, Weston was driving a 2003 silver Toyota Tacoma pick-up truck that had been reported stolen on December 16, 2009 out of an apartment complex on Crowell Road across from California State University Stanislaus (CSUS) in Turlock. Weston was observed placing fliers on vehicle windshields in the campus parking lot by a CSUS police officer on the day the truck was stolen. After Modesto police officers performed a traffic stop on Weston, he claimed that a friend from his Alcoholics Anonymous meetings in Turlock loaned him the vehicle for \$30.

The Honorable John Freeland sentenced Weston to five years in the California Rehabilitation Center.

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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