



OFFICE OF THE  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Stanislaus County  
832 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353  
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 525-5545

**Birgit Fladager**  
**District Attorney**  
Carol Shipley  
Assistant District Attorney  
Chief Deputy District Attorneys  
Jerry Begen  
Steve Casey  
Alan Cassidy  
Dave Harris

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: 10/7/08  
Re: Edward Battiste

**For More Information Contact:**

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney  
Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Edward Antonio Battiste, age 27, of Modesto, entered a guilty plea on September 26, 2008 to one count of robbery and one count of grand theft. Deputy District Attorney Nathan Baker prosecuted the case for the People.

The robbery charge arose out an incident that occurred on July 14, 2007 in the city of Modesto. Battiste used force to take a purse from the victim, who was getting into her car in a parking lot. Two citizens chased after the defendant and detained him until police arrived. The grand theft incident occurred on June 18, 2007 at a convenience store in Modesto. Battiste approached the front counter to make a purchase. When the clerk opened the cash register, Battiste reached across the counter and took money from the till. The defendant was unarmed and the clerk was uninjured.

Upon entry of the plea, Battiste was sentenced by the Honorable Ricardo Cordova to two years and eight months in state prison.

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