

Re:

OFFICE OF THE **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

For More Information Contact:

Date: September 30, 2008

Charles Ross

Case #1248634

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Charles Ross, age 31, of Modesto, was sentenced to three years and eight months in state prison on September 29, 2008 after he pled guilty to auto theft and admitted a violation of probation. Ross admitted to a violation of his probation in a case in which he had entered a plea of guilty on December 14, 2007 to a felony charge of Grand Theft. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The auto-theft case arose out of events which occurred on June 29, 2008. A California Highway Patrol Officer was on routine patrol at 11:44 am, when he observed a 1992 white Ford Escort that had been reported stolen three days prior. After a traffic stop, the defendant claimed that he bought the car for \$500 from some guy whom defendant had no address or name.

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