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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: May 20, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Paul Abraham Elmaguid

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief Sentenced to 3 Years Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Paul Abraham Elmaguid, age 22, of Hayward, was convicted of auto theft and evading a peace officer and admitted having a prior auto theft conviction from August 2006 out of Alameda County for which he was still on probation. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on January 16, 2009 in Turlock when Elmaguid was observed speeding in a 2007 black Dodge Nitro SUV on Highway 99 in Turlock. When a California Highway Patrol officer tried to perform a routine traffic stop, the defendant accelerated to over 130 mph. He then tried to exit at Winton Parkway in Livingston and crashed into another vehicle. Elmaguid then jumped out of the SUV and fled on foot. He was apprehended a short distance away. After checking the registration of the SUV, the officers discovered that the SUV had been reported stolen out of Hayward on January 3, 2009.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Marie Silveira sentenced Elmaguid to three years 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**

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