



OFFICE OF THE
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: February 11, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: David Wayne Hodge, Jr

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Auto Thief Sentenced to 2 Years Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that David Wayne Hodge, age 27, of Modesto, was sentenced by the Honorable Timothy Salter to two years in state prison on February 11 after he pled guilty on October 31, 2008 to auto theft and admitted a previous auto theft conviction stemming from a July 2004 case. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on May 9, 2008 at around midnight in the area of Pelton Avenue and Hammond Street in Modesto when the defendant was seen parking a 1991 Honda Accord that had been reported stolen about one and a half months prior. The ignition was completely destroyed. The defendant claimed he knew nothing about the car and was just visiting a friend at the apartment complex, but he didn't know his friend's last name or his apartment number.

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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