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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: February 26, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Aaron William Schaffer

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Auto Thief Sentenced to 16 Months Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Aaron William Schaffer, age 25, of Modesto, pled guilty to possession of a stolen car and admitted a violation of his deferred judgment drug treatment program from a February 2008 conviction for possession of methamphetamine. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events which occurred on January 28, 2009 at approximately 5:00 am when a Modesto Police Department officer stopped a 1989 gold Honda Civic with expired registration tags in the area of Carpenter Road and Kansas Avenue. Schaffer, the driver, did not have the vehicle registration and the Honda Civic was registered to someone else. The officer was informed by dispatch that the vehicle was an unreported stolen vehicle out of Manteca. Schaffer claimed that he borrowed the car from a friend, but didn't know where he lived or how to contact him to return it.

Upon the entry of his guilty plea, the Honorable John Whiteside sentenced Schaffer to sixteen months 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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