



OFFICE OF THE
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: July 16, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Juan Cardenas

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Auto Thief Sentenced to
Two Years, Four Months Prison

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Juan Cardenas, age 26, of Modesto, was convicted on July 16, 2010 of auto theft. Cardenas also admitted a prior conviction for attempted commercial burglary from September 2008 for which he was still on parole. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On July 8, 2010 at approximately 4:25 p.m. in the area of Frazine Road in Modesto, the owner of a 1992 blue Chevy 1500 pick-up truck called 911 after he observed Cardenas driving his truck which had been stolen earlier that day at around noon from the airport district in Modesto. The owner updated the police dispatcher on his location as he followed his stolen truck and a deputy was able to catch up to them and perform a traffic stop. Cardenas admitted that he stole the truck because he was tired of walking around all the time. Cardenas also stated that he stole a wheel from another stolen 1989 gray Chevy pick-up truck that had been abandoned in a nearby orchard.

Upon entry of his plea, the Honorable John Freeland sentenced Cardenas to two years and four 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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