



OFFICE OF THE
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: July 2, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Asuncion Maria Landavazo
Auto Thief Sentenced to
3 Years in Prison

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Asuncion Maria Landavazo, age 37, of Ceres, was convicted on July 2, 2010 of auto theft and burglary. Landavazo also admitted a prior conviction for receiving stolen property (a vehicle) from March 2009. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On November 17, 2009 Landavazo walked into Yancey Lumber Store in Patterson and used a check to make a purchase for \$888.37 from her checking account that she had previously closed in September 2008. The clerk had written Landavazo's driver's license number on the check and the transaction was captured on store surveillance video. An arrest warrant was then issued for Landavazo.

On June 27, 2010 at approximately noon in the area of Anna Avenue and Motsinger Avenue in Keyes, an officer observed Landavazo driving a 1991 black Honda Accord that had been reported stolen out of Turlock on June 24, 2010. After performing a traffic stop, the officer discovered that no key was needed in the ignition to start the vehicle. Landavazo then admitted that she knew the car was stolen when she bought it for \$200.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Scott Steffen sentenced Landavazo to three years in 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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