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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: July 13, 2009

Re: Edith Ayon

Auto Thief Sentenced to 4 years, 8 Months  
Prison

Contact: Carol Shipley

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**Modesto, California** – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Edith Ayon, age 31, of Turlock, pled guilty to commercial burglary and auto theft. Ayon is currently on parole for theft and possession of methamphetamine for sale. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on two separate dates. On March 25, 2009 at approximately 4:45 p.m., Ayon entered the Umpqua Bank located on McHenry Avenue in Modesto and attempted to cash a counterfeit check for \$627.74. Ayon became nervous and left the bank without the check and her identification card. Ayon claimed that she needed the money to buy alcohol. After her arrest, Ayon posted bail and was released from custody.

On May 3, 2009, Ayon purchased a used 2005 silver Honda Accord that was parked on Crows Landing Road with a "For Sale" sign on it. She gave the victim fifteen counterfeit \$500 Money Gram money orders totaling \$7,500. The victim handed over the car keys, pink slip, and bill of sale. When the victim went to cash the money orders, she was informed that they were counterfeit. Ayon was identified by the victim in a photo line-up.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Marie Silveira sentenced Ayon to four years and eight 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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