



OFFICE OF THE
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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: May 1, 2009

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Dwayne Burt Morris Jr

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief sentenced to 16 months prison

Modesto, California Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Dwayne Burt Morris Jr, age 32, of Modesto, was convicted of auto theft. Morris is currently on felony probation for possession of methamphetamine for sale from April 2007 and commercial burglary from June 2006. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on April 27, 2009 when Morris was observed riding a 2006 white moped. After pulling Morris over for a routine traffic violation, the deputy sheriff observed that the ignition of the moped had been damaged. When Morris could not provide vehicle registration or proof of insurance, a check on the vehicle identification number revealed that the moped was reported stolen out of Sonora on March 20, 2009. Morris claimed he borrowed the moped from a friend but had no contact information for him.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable Thomas Zeff sentenced Morris 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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