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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 6, 2009
Re: Danny Stevens, Jr.
Auto thief sent to prison for 12 years
and 8 months

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Danny Stevens, Jr., age 45, of Turlock, was convicted on October 6, 2009 of auto theft, possession of stolen property, possession of a dirk or dagger and resisting arrest. He also admitted four prior felony convictions that fall under California's "Three Strikes" law and also having served four prior prison terms. Deputy District Attorney John H. Baker prosecuted the case for the People.

On October 9, 2008, Stevens received possession of a car he knew to be a stolen car. Stevens, claiming to be the real owner, then sold the car to another person. When that buyer contacted the actual owner of the vehicle and found out the car was previously stolen, the buyer called the Turlock Police Department. The police located Stevens later that day. Stevens was in possession of another vehicle that had been stolen the night before. He fled from the police on foot and was apprehended after a short chase. A search of Stevens revealed that he was carrying a fixed blade knife that was completely concealed upon his person.

Upon entry of the guilty plea, the Honorable John Whiteside struck three of the "strike" priors and sentenced the defendant to 12 years and 8 months in state prison.

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