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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: December 5, 2008  
Re: Gerardo Beltrain  
Possession of Stolen Property, Commercial  
Burglary, and Honor Farm Escapee Sentenced  
to 3 years, 8 months in prison

**For More Information Contact:**

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Gerardo Beltrain, age 33, of Modesto, was convicted of possession of a stolen car, commercial burglary and escaping from the Honor Farm. The defendant also admitted a prior prison commitment for commercial burglary from February 2007 for which he was on parole. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On August 14, 2008, the defendant was observed on a security camera videotape using a crowbar to break into the closed business of Mrs. Wireless on Hatch Road in Ceres. Several days later, while officers were completing their investigation and trying to locate Beltrain, an anonymous caller reported that Beltrain had a stolen 1990 Chevrolet Silverado in a backyard in Modesto. Officers responded to that location and Beltrain was arrested near the stolen truck with a screwdriver in his possession. On August 22, 2008, Beltrain escaped from the Honor Farm and was caught on November 12, 2008 in Modesto.

Upon the entry of guilty pleas to the crimes, Beltrain was sentenced by the Honorable Scott Steffen to three 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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