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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 29, 2008
Re: Hugo Fausto

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Hugo Fausto, age 31, of Oakdale, pled to one count of auto theft and one count of residential burglary on September 26, 2008 and was sentenced by the Honorable Scott Steffen to four years in state prison. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The auto theft arose out of a traffic stop on March 29, 2007. The driver, defendant Fausto, did not have a valid driver's license, and the officer was advised by Dispatch that the vehicle he was driving had been stolen.

The residential burglary arose out of an incident on October 5, 2007, at approximately 2:29 p.m., when an officer was dispatched to a residence in Waterford where defendant Fausto was being detained by citizens who caught him as he was leaving a residence that had been burglarized. When the Deputy arrived, he observed a citizen detaining Mr. Fausto on the ground. The resident of the home that was burglarized reported that she works up the street from her residence and had stepped outside and looked toward her house because there had been a rash of burglaries in the area. She observed a strange vehicle in her driveway. She called her father who went to the residence. Her father reported he pulled into the driveway and observed a male in the vehicle that was parked there. He observed the male start the vehicle and drive erratically out of the driveway. He then observed two subjects, one of whom he identified as Hugo Fausto, run out of the residence. Her father chased the subjects and was able to catch Hugo Fausto.

The residential burglary conviction is a "strike" under California's Three Strikes Law.