

# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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#### Birgit Fladager District Attorney

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# PRESS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

## For More Information Contact:

Date: July 31, 2009 Re: Ronald Pierre Althuizen Drunk Driver Convicted Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney Phone: (209) 525-5550

**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Ronald Pierre Althuizen, age 43, of Modesto, was convicted after a four-day jury trial of Driving Under the Influence (DUI), having a blood alcohol concentration of .15 percent or more. Deputy District Attorney Monika Saini prosecuted the case for the People.

The case arose out of events that occurred on October 9, 2008. A security guard at the Food Maxx parking lot in Turlock witnessed Althuizen stumble to his vehicle and start the car. The witness called 911. The witness saw Althuizen back into a tree, causing damage to the tree, and then drive up a curb and onto a sidewalk. Althuizen then drove out of the Food Maxx parking lot, across the street, and entered the neighboring Wal-Mart parking lot. He parked the vehicle and fell asleep. Officers arrived and found Althuizen in the driver's seat. Althuizen displayed objective signs of intoxication. He performed field sobriety tests in a manner consistent with someone under the influence. His blood alcohol level was a .27/.33/.32 on the EPAS machine.

On July 31, 2009, the Honorable Judge Freeland placed Althuizen on 3 years informal probation, ordered him to pay specified fines, attend Level I enhanced alcohol counseling and sentenced him to 10 days in the county jail.

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