

OFFICE OF THE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: June 1, 2009 Assistant District Attorney

Re: Napualani Nofoai Lesu Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief Sentenced to 16 months in state

prison

Modesto, California Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Napualani Nofoai Lesu, age 29, of Modesto, was convicted of auto theft and possession of a concealed knife stemming from two cases. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

The cases arose out of events that occurred on two separate occasions. On February 13, 2009 at approximately midnight in a parking lot of a closed business on 4th and I Street in Modesto, a Modesto Police officer observed Lesu loitering in an area where the businesses were closed. The officer then discovered that Lesu had a 6" open knife concealed under her clothes.

On March 9, 2009 at approximately 7:30 a.m. in the area of Vine Street and Madison Avenue, a Modesto Police officer observed Lesu driving a 1994 gold Geo Prism that had been reported stolen out of Modesto on March 1, 2009. Lesu claimed her friend loaned the vehicle to her.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable John Freeland sentenced Lesu 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