

# OFFICE OF THE **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

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#### PRESS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

#### **For More Information Contact:**

Date: January 5, 2010 Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney

Re: Matthew Allen Ratliff Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief Gets 16 Months Prison

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager was pleased to announce today that Matthew Allen Ratliff, age 28, of Ceres, was convicted of Auto Theft on January 4, 2010. Deputy District Attorney Michael D. Houston prosecuted the case for the People.

On November 13, 2009 in Modesto, Ratliff was in the process of the buying a 1995 Nissan Sentra from the registered owner for \$3000 when Ratliff took off with the car and never returned it.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable John D. Freeland sentenced defendant to 16 months in state prison.