



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: May 28, 2010

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Daniel Anthony Gonzales
Auto Thief Sentenced to
16 Months

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Daniel Anthony Gonzales, age 43, of Modesto, was convicted on May 28, 2010 of auto theft. Gonzales is currently on felony probation for theft with prior theft convictions stemming from a May 2009 conviction. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On May 20, 2010 at approximately 10:00 p.m. in the area of Monterey Avenue and Thrasher Avenue in Modesto, an officer observed Gonzales driving a 1990 gray Honda Accord that had been reported stolen that morning in Modesto. After a traffic stop, Gonzales claimed that a friend named “Johnny” loaned him the car. However, Gonzales had no contact information for his friend. Although the victim had locked her vehicle after parking it on the street that morning, she had left a spare key hidden inside the car. This was the same key that Gonzales was using to drive the vehicle.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable David Vander Wall sentenced Gonzales to sixteen months in state prison.

The District Attorney’s Office urges residents not to leave any extra vehicle keys inside their cars, even if they lock their car doors.

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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