



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: March 1, 2011

Assistant District Attorney

Re: Eric Lee Renfro

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Auto Thief
Gets 3 Years

Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Eric Lee Renfro, age 40, of Ceres, was convicted on March 1, 2011 of possession of a stolen vehicle. Renfro also admitted a prior auto theft conviction from April 2008 for which he had served time in prison and was still on parole. Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey W. Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On January 21, 2011 at approximately 12:30 a.m. in Beard Brook Park in Modesto, an officer observed a parked 2002 grey Mazda pick-up truck that had been reported stolen the day before at approximately 2:00 p.m. out of the Vintage Faire Mall parking lot. Witnesses at the park informed the officer that Renfro and his 20-year-old daughter were both asking people in the park if they had any methamphetamine to sell. The witnesses then saw Renfro quickly park the truck and enter the public bathroom when Renfro saw the police car approaching. The officer then located Renfro hiding in the public bathroom. Renfro denied being in the truck.

Upon entry of the plea, the Honorable John Whiteside sentenced Renfro to three years in the California Rehabilitation Center.

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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