

#### OFFICE OF THE

# **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

## **Stanislaus County**

832 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Mailing: P. O. Box 442, Modesto, CA 95353 Phone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027

#### Birgit Fladager District Attorney

Carol Shipley Assistant District Attorney

#### Chief Deputy District Attorneys

Jerry Begen Alan Cassidy Dave Harris

### **PRESS RELEASE**

For immediate release Contact: Carol Shipley

Date: April 21, 2011 Assistant District Attorney

Re: Alex Julian Rodriguez Phone: (209) 525-5550

Auto Thief Gets 2 Years Prison

Modesto, California — Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Alex Julian Rodriguez, age 19, of Modesto, was convicted on April 21, 2011 of auto theft, residential burglary, and resisting arrest. Rodriguez had previously been convicted of auto theft and assault from March 2009 for which he was on probation. Deputy District Attorney Jeff Mangar prosecuted the case for the People.

On March 27, 2011 at approximately 10:30 p.m. in the area of Granger Avenue and Stetson Avenue in Modesto, an officer observed Rodriguez speeding in a 1976 white Plymouth Scamp. When the officer tried to perform a routine traffic stop, Rodriguez accelerated away. After several blocks, Rodriguez lost control of the car and crashed in the area of College Avenue. Rodriguez then jumped out of the car and ran. The officer used his K-9 to track down Rodriguez who was found hiding under a truck in an alley carport on Carver Road and arrested him. The officer returned to the car that Rodriguez had been driving and noticed that the ignition was damaged. The officer then contacted the registered owner of the vehicle who was working a night shift at a nearby business. When the owner returned home, he discovered that his residence on E. Orangeburg Avenue had been burglarized and his car stolen from the garage.

The Honorable Thomas Zeff sentenced Rodriguez to two years 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.