

Stanislaus County **SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



MEDIA RELATIONS



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE February 3, 2009
TIME 5:30 PM

HOME INVASION SUSPECTS CAUGHT THREE HOURS AFTER CRIME

Salida, CA – At 5:00 AM this morning, Sheriff's deputies responded to a robbery at the Don Pedro Motel, located at 4730 Salida Blvd, Salida. The victims reported hearing a knock on their hotel door at around 5:00 AM. When one of the victims's answered the door, he was struck in the face with an unknown object. Three suspects then entered the room and rummaged through the victim's items. While inside the room the victim's vehicle keys were taken. The suspects then fled the scene with the victim's vehicle. One victim was treated and released at an area hospital for injuries received during the robbery.

At about 7:30 AM this morning, a Modesto Police Officer spotted the vehicle that was taken in the earlier home invasion on Johnson Street, near Lee Street in Modesto. After a slow speed pursuit Investigators from the Stanislaus County Auto Theft Taskforce (STANCATT) were able to disable the vehicles tires using spike strips, and the vehicle came to a halt. Two suspects were taken into custody without incident. During the pursuit, the suspects failed to stop however, obeyed all traffic signals. The speed of the vehicle never reached above 50 MPH and only traveled several blocks before the vehicle was disabled.

The suspects taken into custody were identified as Sheri NEWTON, 34, and William DEHART, 38, both of Modesto. Both of the suspects were later booked into Stanislaus County Jail facilities on charges of possessing a stolen vehicle, home invasion, carjacking and failing to yield to peace officers.

A third suspect is still outstanding; the only description available for the third suspect was the he is a white male adult, partially bald and clean-shaven. Stanislaus County Sheriff's Detectives are currently investigating the incident.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Detective Frank Soria at (209) 525-7114. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636. Tipsters can also e-mail tips at <http://www.modestopolice.com/CrimeStoppers>, or text them to CRIMES (274637) by typing "Tip704" plus the message and be eligible for a cash reward.

For information regarding this press release please contact Deputy Royjindar Singh (209) 652-6597.