

Stanislaus County
**SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT**

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



MEDIA RELATIONS



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE June 6, 2008
TIME 3:30 PM

Man Dies While Attempting to Steal Tires from a Parked Car

Modesto, CA- A 47-year-old Modesto man died this morning when a car he was attempting to steal tires from collapsed on top of him. At about 5:30 this morning a female walking in the 800 block of E. Hatch Road noticed a person who appeared to be stuck under a car that was parked in a dirt field. As the female approached the vehicle she noticed the victim was not moving. The female was able to flag down several motorists that were driving by. A group of good Samaritans stopped and were able to lift the Cadillac off the victim and remove him from underneath the car. By this time the fire department and paramedics arrived on scene. The victim was transported to the hospital where he was later pronounced dead.

Sheriff's deputies and detectives responded to the scene. The owner of the vehicle did not know who the victim was. Detectives determined the 47-year-old victim was attempting to steal the rims and tires off of the Cadillac. The vehicle was missing both passenger side tires. The passenger side of the vehicle was being held up using cinderblocks, a piece of lumber and rocks. Detectives said it appears the victim was trying to remove the drive-side tires when the makeshift jacks on the passenger side failed and caused the vehicle to shift towards the victim, crushing him underneath it. Both passenger side tires are still missing.

The victim was transient living in the Modesto area. His identity is being withheld pending family notification.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Detective Darwin Hatfield at (209) 525-7100. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636 and be eligible for a cash reward.

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