

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

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ADAM CHRISTIANSON, SHERIFF - CORONER

PRESS RELEASE

For Release: 4:30 PM, December 19, 2011

Sheriff's Deputies Arrest Suspect Wanted on Multiple Theft Charges

Modesto, CA – On 12/19/11 at 8:55 AM Sheriff's deputies responded to the 8700 Block of Jantzen Rd in Modesto, CA for a 911 call regarding a wanted person. When they arrived 51 y/o Irvin Turpitt of Waterford, CA fled through the Pinewood Mobile Home Park. Turpitt was wanted on theft charges from the Sheriff's Office and Modesto Police Department.

Turpitt fled through the trailer park and into a vineyard where he ran toward Gallo security officers. Turpitt then decided to avoid arrest and jumped into the Tuolumne River. He attempted to hide in the river by holding his head under the water until it became too cold and he gave up.

Gallo security officers were able to detain Turpitt as deputies were arriving to the river. Gallo security officers told deputies that Turpitt had been wearing a wig with long hair and glasses when he jumped in the river. Turpitt was booked into the Stanislaus County Jail for vehicle theft, grand theft, possession of stolen property and committing a felony crime while out on bail.

Anyone with information about this case can contact Detective Darwin Hatfield at (209) 525-7100. 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.



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For information regarding this press release please contact:

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