

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE July 22, 2009 **TIME** 5:00 P.M

Title: Parental Child Abduction

Sheriff's Family Crimes Unit detectives are currently investigating the parental abduction of a 4-year old child. The 4-year old is identified as Landon Delaney. Landon is a black male and was last seen wearing khaki shorts and a brown polo shirt. (No photo available).

Sheriff's detectives are looking for the child's mother, Merisha Jackson, a 31-year old a black female out of Modesto, Ca., in connection with this abduction. Jackson has ties to San Mateo County and Los Angeles County. Jackson is described as being 5'-6" tall, 115 lbs., having red hair and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing a one-piece bathing suit and black/white shorts. (See attached photo).

Jackson was last seen with the child on Friday night, July 17th. Jackson, who only has legal custody with limited visitation, was allowed by the child's father to take the child to Mancini Park in Modesto. She failed to return the child as agreed and the family hasn't seen or heard from her or the child since. The child's father has full custody out of Los Angeles County. There are two other children from the relationship, but those children, both males who are 7-years and 9-years, are safe with the father.

Detectives believe Jackson and the child spent Friday night at the Motel 6 on Orangeburg Ave., near Briggmore Ave., in Modesto, CA. Jackson and the child were last seen across the street from the Motel 6 Saturday morning standing near a municipal bus stop. Sheriff's detectives have checked jurisdictions where the mother has ties and so far have not learned of the child's where-a-bouts.

Sheriff's detectives secured a limited notification Amber Alert because there is no vehicle involved at this point. Sheriff's detectives say that the mother has a prior physical child abuse allegation against her out of Los Angeles County involving one of the other children.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Detective Randall Watkins (209) 525-7085 or (209) 525-7074. Callers can also leave an anonymous tip by calling Crime Stoppers at (209) 521-4636. Tipsters can also e-mail tips at <u>http://www.modestopolice.com/CrimeStoppers</u>, 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 Tim Beck at (209) 652-3773.