



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Margaret Mims, Sheriff **January 23, 2007**
News Release

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Investigation and arrest of Deputy Sheriff

The Fresno County Sheriff's Department has concluded an investigation involving Deputy Sheriff Sheila Foster, age 43.

The investigation began in September 2006 as an Internal Affairs investigation relating to off-duty misconduct. The matter was also examined by an investigative unit of the Sheriff's Department for criminal activity. The criminal investigation revealed that Deputy Foster accessed the Department of Motor Vehicle records system to obtain information for personal reasons not related to her duties as a law enforcement officer. The Fresno County District Attorney's Office reviewed the case and on January 23, 2007, a Fresno Superior Court warrant was issued for Foster's arrest for PC 502(a) unauthorized access to computer information, a misdemeanor. The bail was set at \$1,000.00.

Foster has been employed by the Fresno County Sheriff's Department as a Correctional Officer and a Deputy Sheriff for the past five years. Deputy Foster's most recent assignment was as a Patrol Officer trainee, prior to being placed on administrative leave.

Deputy Foster turned herself in to the Main Jail for booking today and was subsequently released after posting bail.

The personnel/administrative processes and actions of the Sheriff's Department will proceed as the criminal case is dealt with in the Courts by the District Attorney's Office.