



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Margaret Mims, Sheriff
News Release

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**MEDIA ADVISORY: Arrest in Identity Theft Investigation/
Investigators seek more victims**

On February 15, 2007, investigators from the Fresno County Sheriff's Department, Fresno Police Department, and California Department of Motor Vehicles, culminated a three week identity theft investigation with the arrest of 21 year old Auly Xayapheth.

The investigation revealed that Xayapheth, an employee at *Famous Dave's Barbeque* on N. Blackstone in Fresno, had been stealing credit card information from patrons at the restaurant. The information was later used to purchase a variety of luxury items.

On February 6, a search warrant was served at Xayapheth's residence in the 3600 block of W. Fedora Ave in Fresno. Numerous items of property purchased with the stolen credit card information were seized along with other information tying her to the thefts. Xayapheth was arrested for Identity Theft, Forgery of Credit Cards, and Burglary.

On February 15, a search warrant was served at *Famous Dave's Barbeque*. More items were seized tying Xayapheth to the theft. At this time, it appears that Xayapheth acted alone and no one from the restaurant was aware of her criminal activity.

The investigation is continuing and detectives are asking anyone who frequented *Famous Dave's Barbeque* since November, 2006, used their credit card at the restaurant, and believes they may have been a victim of identity theft, to please contact Fresno County Sheriff's Detective Edward Essegian at 452-1295.

Additionally, anyone with information on wanted subjects is encouraged to call CRIMESTOPPERS at 498-STOP (7867). Rewards for information leading to the suspect's capture is available and callers can remain anonymous.