

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **DATE** June 5, 2008 **TIME** 2:00 PM

## Sheriff's Detectives Investigate Case Involving Unhealthy Cattle

**Riverbank, CA**-Stanislaus County Sheriff's Detectives responded to a ranch in the 4400 block of Kentucky Ave in Riverbank for reports of dozens of cattle that were unhealthy and not receiving proper care. The report came from the Stanislaus County Animal Control Office, which started the investigation of the malnourished cattle.

This morning Sheriff's Detectives, Animal Control Officers, a county veterinarian, and officials from the State Brand Inspectors office entered the ranch and checked the health of the cattle. After checking the health of the 40 cattle, County Animal Control officers decided to seize all of the animals. The cattle will be loaded onto trucks and transported to a different location to receive food and medical attention.

Detective said there were no signs of any food on the property. The land was also not fit for grazing. Three deceased cattle were also found on the property, but officials are unsure how long they have been deceased.

Detectives have contacted the property owner and interviewed him about the cattle on his property. The investigation on the reason why the animals were not being cared for is still ongoing. Cruelty to animals is a felony offense and is punishable jail or state prison time.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Detective Mason Mineni at (209) 525-7055. 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.