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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 17, 2005

Re: Tyson Michael Silva

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA - Stanislaus County Assistant District Attorney Carol Shipley announced today that Tyson Michael Silva, 31, of Hilmar, entered a guilty plea to one count of grand theft in Stanislaus County Superior Court. Deputy District Attorney Shawn L. Barlow prosecuted the case.

The conviction is based upon a series of thefts from the F & A Cheese Plant in Newman. Defendant Tyson Silva, was a milk delivery driver for Serpa and Sons Transport and responsible for transporting milk owned by F & A Cheese from local dairies to the cheese plant. Beginning in October 2004, Tyson Silva began giving 2000 to 3000 gallons of his daily delivery of milk to Jose Silva, owner of J M Dairy, in exchange for cash payments. Jose Silva would then sell the milk back to F & A Cheese. F & A Cheese was unaware it was purchasing milk it already owned. The loss to F & A Cheese has been calculated to be approximately \$1,000,000. An investigation was conducted by Detective Hale of the Newman Police Department and both Tyson Silva and Jose Silva (no relation) were ultimately arrested for theft.

Tyson Silva was sentenced to 16 months in state prison and ordered to pay full restitution for all losses incurred by F&A Cheese. Jose Silva will be back in court on December 2, 2005.

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