

OFFICE OF THE **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354

Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353 Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027 Birgit Fladager District Attorney Carol Shipley

Assistant District Attorney
Chief Deputy District Attorneys

Jerry Begen Alan Cassidy Dave Harris

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: April 4, 2013

Re: Central Valley Super Market Chain to

Pay More Than \$2.5 Million for Settlement of Retail Hazardous Waste

Disposal Case

For More Information Contact:

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney

Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that that her office, together with 34 other California District Attorney Offices, has reached a settlement in a civil law enforcement action against Save Mart Supermarkets, totaling more than \$2.5 million. Save Mart Supermarkets is headquartered in Modesto, California and operates throughout California as Food Maxx, Maxx Value Foods and Lucky brands. The settlement, which was filed in San Joaquin County Superior Court, resolves allegations that Save Mart violated California laws for the safe storage, handling and disposal of hazardous waste generated from spills and customer returns of hazardous products.

Investigators from various environmental health agencies throughout the state and participating District Attorney's Offices as well as local hazardous waste inspectors engaged in a statewide investigation that revealed violations of law at Save Mart stores. Save Mart worked collaboratively with the prosecutors and investigating agencies to address the specific violations. As a result of the investigation and prosecution, regulated wastes produced by California Save Mart stores will now be properly stored, handled, transported, and disposed of at proper facilities and appropriate records will be kept documenting compliance with California law. The alleged violations occurred over a period of several years at most of the California Save Mart stores and

distribution centers, which include Albertson's Stores acquired by Save Mart and converted to either the Lucky or the Save Mart brand.

Under the Final Judgment Save Mart must pay \$2.557 million in civil penalties, costs and expenses for supplemental environmental projects furthering consumer protection and environmental enforcement in the State, and will be bound under the terms of a permanent injunction prohibiting similar alleged violations of law in the future.