



**SHERIFF LAURIE SMITH**

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**For Immediate Release- Media**

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**Sheriff's Office Investigators Arrest Suspect in Case of Slaughtered Livestock  
Stemming from Cattle Grazing Dispute**

Yesterday afternoon, Sheriff's Office Deputies arrested Marc Belluomini, 54, at his residence in Fremont, California. Belluomini was held on 11 Counts of Animal Cruelty, 2 Counts of Illegal Cattle Driving, and 1 count of Brandishing a Firearm.

Belluomini is the owner of a large parcel of land in Unincorporated Santa Clara County. The parcel is located near Canada de Los Osos Ecological Preserve off of Highway 152.

Early in 2018, Belluomini entered into an agreement to allow cattle to graze on 1500 acres of his South County land. The cattle were owned by two separate cattle owners who were both parties to the agreement. In May of 2018, the relationship between the parties began to break down, and one of the cattle owners desired to remove his cattle from Belluomini's property.

On May 25, 2018, Belluomini confronted the cattle owner as the cattle owner attempted to remove cattle from Belluomini's land. Belluomini brandished a rifle during the confrontation and ordered the cattle owner off the property. The cattle owner notified the Sheriff's Office of the incident.

Sheriff's Office Rural Crime Deputies spoke to all the parties and negotiated a solution which involved removing all the cattle from Belluomini's property. The solution was amenable to all parties.

However, on June 5, 2018, Sheriff's Office Rural Crime Deputies were informed by the cattle owners that numerous cattle had been slaughtered and buried on Belluomini's property.

Immediately, the Sheriff's Office launched a full investigation which included numerous search warrants and the recovery of 11 unearched cattle on Belluomini's property. Investigators were able to recover bullet fragments from some of the deceased cattle in addition to other evidence.

Belluomini was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail and later posted bail set at \$200,000.

"I am extremely proud of the exquisite work by our investigators in this unusual case. I truly hope justice will be served in response to the cruel killing of these animals." - *Sheriff Laurie Smith*

Booking Photo Attached.

**Prepared By: Sgt. R. Glennon**  
**Approved By: U/S R. Sung**

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