

Stanislaus County **SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Sheriff Adam Christianson
250 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358



MEDIA RELATIONS



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE January 9, 2009
TIME 10:00 AM

Detectives Arrest Suspects In Multi-Million Dollar Milk Fraud Case

Modesto, Ca- Stanislaus County Sheriff's Detectives have arrested two suspects in a milk fraud case that involved Foster Farms Dairy in the City of Modesto. Detectives arrested Jose TEIXEIRA Sr. (DOB 05/28/1961) of Stevenson and Elmiro (Tony) BELO (DOB 10/30/1949) of Escalon on Thursday January 8, 2009. Detectives are still investigation the case and say more arrest forthcoming.

Detectives began investigating the case early December 2007 when they received a call from Foster Farms Dairy reporting that a truck driver was committing fraud against the company. As detectives began investigating the truck driver, Jose TEIXEIRA, they uncovered that he was working with two other dairies to fraud money from Foster Farms Dairy. TEIXEIRA's job was to deliver milk to the Foster Farms Dairy Creamery in Modesto from dairies throughout the valley. While unloading the milk at the Foster Farms Dairy Creamery, TEIXEIRA would leave a couple thousand gallons of milk in his tank, when he should have been unloading the entire tank. He would then leave and refill his tank at one of the two dairies. When he returned to the creamery, he reported he had a full load of new milk and the dairy would be paid for the couple thousand gallons that were already in the tank. Detectives believe TEIXEIRA had been conducting this type of fraud since December 2005. Since 2005, Foster Farms Dairy is estimating a loss of approximately 4 million dollars.

Detectives believe TEIXEIRA was working with Silveira Dairy in the 9400 block of Alvarado Road and Belo Dairy in the 11100 block of Cleveland Ave, both in Oakdale. BELO was arrested for his involvement in the fraud as the owner of Belo Dairy. Both TEIXEIRA and BELO were arrested and booked into the Stanislaus County Jail for grand theft.

Anyone with information about this case is encouraged to contact Detective Mike Myers at (209) 869-7162. 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.

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