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Press Release

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California Rancher Kevin Kester Named 2014 NCBA Policy Division Vice Chairman

SACRAMENTO, Calif., – A record-setting number of over 8,200 cattlemen and women attended the 2014 Cattle Industry Convention and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) Trade Show this week, where California rancher Kevin Kester was named among the new NCBA officers as the policy division vice chairman.

Having served in leadership for the California Cattlemen's Association for much of the past decade – most recently as president in 2011 and 2012 – in addition to representing cattlemen on a national level, Kester's experience on local, state and federal ranching issues make him a terrific asset to NCBA.

Kester will work to ensure that cattlemen are well represented across the country and in Washington, D.C. His main goal is to increase NCBA membership through increased efforts of two-way communication with NCBA state affiliates and grass-roots producers.

Kester comes from nearly 150 years of California ranching history on the Bear Valley Ranch in Parkfield, Calif. He and his wife, June, along with their three children, Kayleen, Kody and Kara, own and operate a stocker and cow-calf operation, as well as farm grapes on their Monterey County ranch.

“It's a distinct honor to represent the nation's cattlemen and beef producers.” Kester said. “The beef industry has supported my family and our ranch since 1867, and I'm proud to be working with America's beef producers to give something back.”

Kester will join a newly elected team to work on behalf of NCBA members for the coming year. Bob McCan of Texas, will succeed Wyoming's Scott George as NCBA president. The new NCBA President Elect is Philip Ellis of Wyoming. Tracy Brunner of Kansas is NCBA's new vice president. Cevin Jones of Idaho was elected chairman of the NCBA Federation Division, and Jennifer Houston of Tennessee is the Federation Division's vice chair and the new NCBA Policy Division chairman is Craig Uden of Nebraska.

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Founded in 1917, the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) represents California's 1.75 billion- dollar beef cattle industry on legislative and regulatory affairs and remains the number one voice for the industry today. CCA is an affiliate of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, which represents America's cattle farmers and ranchers.