

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2012

## **CONTACT:**

Stevie Ipsen
Director of Communications
Stevie@calcattlemen.org

## **Media Statement**

California Cattlemen's Association 1221 H Street \* Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone 916-444-0845 \* Fax 916-444-2194 www.calcattlemen.org

## California Cattlemen's Association President Speaks Out Against Extremist Attack "Attacks strengthen resolve to protect ranching heritage"

Sacramento, Calif. – Regarding last weekend's alleged animal rights group attack on Harris Ranch Feeding Company, Coalinga, Calif., CCA President Kevin Kester, a Central Coast rancher, released the following statement:

"Members of the California Cattlemen's Association are deeply troubled by the violent and senseless attack on Harris Ranch. The callous statements released by those responsible for the attack reflects the radical views of terrorists that have no regard for the law or share the values of the majority of Americans. Harris Ranch is widely recognized as a beef industry leader in advocating for the humane treatment of animals and their operation is widely recognized and celebrated for their outstanding animal welfare practices.

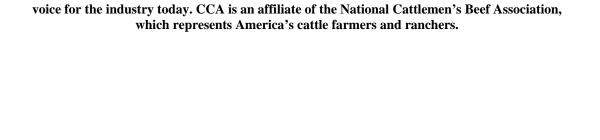
"In the days following the attack, I have received countless phone calls from ranchers and concerned citizens throughout the state who are horrified by this senseless violence and want to help bring those responsible to justice. In the coming days, CCA will be working with Harris Ranch and law enforcement to setup a reward fund for any information leading to the prosecution of the individuals responsible.

"These types of senseless attacks are not only an attack on our nation's food system but an attack on the shared values of our nation. The outpouring of support that we have received for Harris Ranch is a testament to their highly respected position, not only in the beef industry but throughout the state, and that Californians do not support the radical views of these terrorists.

"CCA will continue to support Harris Ranch and will release the details of the reward fund and how those interested can help in the near future. California's beef industry has a long-standing place in our state's history and these types of attacks only strengthen our industry's resolve to protect our rich ranching heritage for future generations."

####

Founded in 1917, the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) represents California's \$1.78 billion beef cattle industry on legislative and regulatory affairs and remains the number one



####

Founded in 1917, the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) represents California's \$1.78 billion 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.