



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Ag Theft Investigation Leads to Recovery of Stolen Cattle by MS Department of Agriculture

JACKSON, Miss. - The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau (MALTB), the law enforcement division of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce, initiated an investigation yesterday that resulted in the recovery of 29 stolen calves.

MALTB Investigator Jamie Taylor led the investigation of the calves reported stolen from Tadlock Stockyard in Forest. All 29 calves have been recovered, and an arrest has been made. The investigation is still ongoing with additional arrests possible.

Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson applauds the efforts of the MALTB, "I am proud of the Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau for their quick recovery in this case. I encourage others that become a victim of an ag-related theft or agricultural crime to contact our office so we can begin investigative efforts and apprehend criminals before they commit other crimes."

MALTB Director, Dean Barnard, praised local law enforcement officials for their hard work and dedication in this case. "I appreciate the assistance of the Scott County Sherriff's Office and the City of Forest Police Department in the investigation, which helped lead to a quick arrest," said Barnard.

The Mississippi Agricultural and Livestock Theft Bureau enforces state laws pertaining to the theft of cattle, horses, swine, poultry, fish, farm equipment, chemicals, timber and all other farm or agriculture-related crimes. To report or provide information regarding an agricultural crime, call (800) 678-2660.

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