BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE : **February 19, 2013**

RELEASED BY : **Detective Sgt. Jason Hail**

CONTACT # : **Media Liaison Miranda Bowersox 530-538-5384**

RE: Arrest made in 2010 murder of Andres Cervantes Mendoza

On February 19, 2013 Butte County Sheriff's detectives arrested Justin Taylor Foster (age 23) from Honcut, CA for the murder of Andres Cervantes Mendoza (age 20 at time of death) from Yuba City, CA. Andres Mendoza's body was discovered in the brush along the side of Lower Honcut Rd near Pheasant Lane on October 7, 2010. An autopsy determined that Andes Mendoza died as a result of a gunshot wound.

After a lengthy investigation, detectives were able to determine that Justin Foster confronted Andres Mendoza after a deal involving marijuana and then shot Mendoza near Hightest Kennels on Lower Honcut Road.

Recent information regarding this case resulted in the service of a search warrant at the Foster residence located at 1369 Lower Honcut Rd, Honcut. During the service of the search warrant, Justin Foster's father, Raymond Edward Foster (age 70) was arrested and charged with cultivation and sales of marijuana, as well as being a prohibited person in possession of ammunition. His bail was set at $115,000.

Justin Foster was contacted by Butte County Sheriff's detectives in front of the Butte County Courthouse in Oroville, CA at approximately 8:30 AM on February 19, 2013. Justin Foster was placed under arrest without incident at that time and charged with murder. Justin Foster was booked into the Butte County Jail, Oroville and is being held without bail.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Butte County Sheriff's Detective Ryan Gsell at 530-538-7671.