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August 29, 2005

SSA Kevin Baker
Federal Bureau of Investigation
4500 Orange Grove Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95841

SSA Baker:

As I mentioned to you during our recent meeting, my firm has been conducting an investigation on behalf of Weintraub Genshlea Chediak Sproul, the law firm representing The Morning Star Packing Company LLP. The investigation has developed sufficient evidence corroborating suspicions of activity in violation of Federal Criminal statutes under the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to warrant reporting these matters to your office.

Our investigation was predicated upon information discovered by Morning Star Packing during attempts to reconcile accounts with two foreign customers. Morning Star Packing is one of the world's largest processors of tomatoes and tomato products with facilities throughout the Eastern District of California, including Los Banos, Riverbank, Woodland and Williams, California. The attempted reconciliation by Morning Star revealed that funds related to some international accounts appear to have been illegally diverted by a former sales representative, TONY MANUEL, date of birth [REDACTED], SSN [REDACTED]. Tony Manuel now works with a competitor of Morning Star, SK Foods, at an office located in Stockton, California. This office is reported to be occupied only by Tony Manuel and another former Morning Star employee, JEFF BEASLEY, date of birth [REDACTED], SSN [REDACTED]. We have developed evidence of the following violations of Federal law:

18 USC 1341 Fraud by Mail and 18 USC 1343 Fraud by Wire

Evidence exists that Tony Manuel has violated 18 USC 1341 and 1343 through a scheme to divert money due his former employer, Morning Star Packing. It appears Tony Manuel created his own companies, established bank accounts in the name of those companies and then directed customers of Morning Star to wire their payments to his companies rather than Morning Star. He appears to have later wired some of the funds to Morning Star on behalf of the customer accounts, leaving a shortfall of over \$1 million. We have developed evidence that Tony Manuel used email and faxes in support of this scheme. It is not yet clear what use Tony Manuel made of the millions of dollars, but some suspect it may have been used to fund his own business efforts, the business efforts of SK Foods or a reported gambling habit.

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