

### **Alabama Livestock Dealer Agrees to USDA Penalties**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (February 12, 1997)--Willie L. Hill, a livestock dealer in Montgomery, Alabama, has agreed to a suspension and cease and desist order issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Hill has agreed to cease and desist from failing to pay the full purchase price of livestock, and issuing insufficient funds checks in purported payment for livestock purchases. Hill is suspended as a registrant under the Packers and Stockyards Act for 5 years; however, he may request that his suspension be lifted after 90 days if he demonstrates that all livestock sellers have been paid in full. Hill, also, may apply for a modification of the order to permit employment by another registrant or packer after 90 days.

In agreeing to the penalties, Willie L. Hill neither admitted nor denied the charges filed by USDA under the Packers and Stockyards Act.

The Packers and Stockyards Act is an antitrust, fair trade practice, and payment protection law. It is designed to ensure free and open competition, and to prevent unfair and deceptive practices in the marketing of livestock, meat, and poultry.

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