

New York Livestock Dealer Agrees to USDA Order

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 3, 1997)--Pasquale V. Leone, doing business as H.D. Livestock, Utica, New York, has agreed to a consent order to settle charges that he engaged in the business of a market agency buying livestock on commission without maintaining an adequate bond or its equivalent. The charges were filed under the authority of the Packers & Stockyards (P&S) Act.

Since the charges were filed, Leone has agreed to an order requiring him to cease and desist engaging in business in any capacity for which bonding is required without filing and maintaining an adequate bond or its equivalent. Under the provisions of the P&S Act, market agencies buying livestock on a commission basis are required to file a bond as a measure of protection for livestock sellers. Leone is now in compliance with the bonding requirements.

In agreeing to the order, Leone neither admitted nor denied the charges filed by USDA under the P&S 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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