

USDA Charges New Jersey Live Poultry Dealer

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 12, 1997)--Sechler Foods, Inc., of Vineland, New Jersey, and its president, Scott I. Sechler, have been charged by the U. S. Department of Agriculture with violating the Packers and Stockyards Act by failing to pay for live poultry purchased in cash sales and failing to pay promptly the full purchase price of such live poultry. They also were charged with violating the Secretary Order issued on January 7, 1993, in P&S Docket No. D-92-90 in which they agreed to cease and desist from engaging in such practices.

Sechler Foods, Inc., and Scott I. Sechler have a right to a hearing on the federal administrative charges. If the charges are proven, they could be placed under a cease and desist order similar to a permanent injunction and assessed a civil penalty.

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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