

USDA Issued a Default Decision Against Alexander Carr Smith

Washington, DC (April 10, 2001) - On February 22, 2001, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a default decision ordering Alexander Carr Smith (Smith) of Church Hill, Tennessee to stop violating the bonding requirements of the Packers and Stockyards Act (Act). Smith is registered under the Act as a market agency buying livestock on commission, and as a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce for his own account.

The default decision was issued after Smith failed to respond to an administrative complaint filed on September 7, 2000, alleging Smith failed to increase his bond coverage. Failure to file an answer constituted an admission of the allegations stated in the complaint.

Under the terms of the default decision, Smith, his agents, and employees, were ordered to cease and desist from engaging in business in any capacity for which bonding is required under the Act without filing and maintaining an adequate bond or its equivalent. In accordance with the Act, Smith was assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00.

On April 5, 2001, the decision became final, when Smith failed to file an appeal with USDA's Judicial Officer.

The Packers and Stockyards Act is a fair trade practice and payment protection law that promotes fair and competitive marketing environments for the livestock, meat, and poultry industries.

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