

Wakeeney Subject Of GIPSA Complaint

WASHINGTON, March 5, 2003 - On Jan. 27, 2003, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration issued an administrative complaint against Kirk Hemmert, d.b.a. Wakeeney Livestock Commission Co. (Wakeeney), Wakeeney, Kan. Wakeeney is a market agency selling livestock on commission under the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act).

The complaint alleges that Wakeeney during the period June 29, 2001, through Aug. 21, 2001, failed to maintain its custodial account in accordance with the P&S Act and regulations. The complaint alleges that Wakeeney had custodial account shortages on June 29, Aug. 7, 14, and 21, 2001, of \$9,520.67, \$33,147.22, \$49,580.39, and \$60,221.46 respectively.

The P&S 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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Leah Akbar (202) 720-4998
Leah.L.Akbar@usda.gov