

GIPSA Complaint Issued Against Cecil Clark McNeese

WASHINGTON, July 9, 2003 - On June 23, 2003, USDA's Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) issued an administrative complaint against Cecil Clark McNeese (McNeese) of Pulaski, Tenn.

The complaint alleges that McNeese violated the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act) by failing to make timely payments for livestock, and failed to pay \$117,842.73 for livestock purchases. The complaint also alleges that McNeese, in connection with his operations subject to the P&S Act and regulations, failed to keep accounts, records, and memoranda which fully and correctly disclosed all the transactions involved in his business as a livestock dealer.

McNeese has 20 days from receiving the complaint to file an answer to the allegations outlined in the complaint. Failure to file an answer within the time allowed will constitute an admission of the allegations. A denial of the allegations will result in an oral hearing. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, McNeese may be ordered to stop violating the P&S Act, be suspended as a registrant under the P&S Act, and assessed a civil penalty.

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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