

GIPSA Complaint Issued Against Weldon Mack Glidewell D/B/A Mineral Wells Stockyards Company And Weatherford Stockyards Company

WASHINGTON, July 11, 2003 - On July 2, 2003, USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) issued an administrative complaint against Weldon Mack Glidewell d/b/a Mineral Wells Stockyards Company and Weatherford Stockyards Company (Glidewell) of Mineral Wells, Texas. Glidewell is engaged in the business of conducting and operating Mineral Wells Stockyards Company and Weatherford Stockyards Company, as a market agency selling livestock on commission at the stockyards and as a dealer buying and selling livestock for his own account in commerce subject to the requirements of the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act).

The complaint alleges Glidewell violated the P&S Act and regulations by engaging in an unfair practice by failing to properly maintain his custodial account. According to the complaint, Glidewell's custodial account had insufficient funds to pay consignors the net proceeds due from the sale of their livestock or to pay sellers the purchase price of livestock purchased by Glidewell on four different dates. The complaint also alleges that Glidewell failed to properly maintain his custodial account despite having been placed on notice in 1999 that the alleged practices are prohibited by the P&S Act.

Glidewell 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, Glidewell 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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