

## **Consent Decision Reached In GIPSA's Case Against Rickey Thompson, D/B/A Rick Thompson Livestock And J.T. Cattle, And Justin Thompson**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7, 2003 - On Sept 4, 2003, USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) reached a consent decision against Rickey Thompson, d.b.a. Rick Thompson Livestock and JT Cattle (Rickey Thompson) and Justin Thompson.

The consent decision follows an Aug. 2, 2002, administrative complaint filed by GIPSA against Rickey Thompson. That complaint alleged that Rickey Thompson purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, for the full purchase price of the livestock; used an unauthorized trade name of JT Cattle; and engaged in other unlawful conduct such as backdating checks to the date of sale. Additionally, the complaint alleges that Rickey Thompson failed to maintain accounts, records and memoranda that fully and correctly disclose all business transactions subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act).

Rickey and Justin Thompson were ordered to stop failing to pay, when due, the full purchase price of livestock, and failing to pay the full purchase price for livestock. They were further ordered to stop paying for livestock in any time or manner other than required by subsection 409(a) of the P&S Act and regulations unless having a written agreement prior to purchasing livestock as required by subsection 409(b). Rickey and Justin Thompson were ordered to stop issuing checks for payment for livestock purchases without having sufficient funds on deposit and available in the account on which the checks were drawn, and from purchasing livestock under any trade name other than Rick Thompson Livestock without first registering or obtaining an amendment of the registration which approves the use of a new trade name. Finally, they were ordered to keep and maintain accounts, records and memoranda which fully and correctly disclose all transactions in their business subject to the P&S Act and regulations.

Rickey Thompson was suspended as a registrant for five years. The final four years of the suspension will be held in abeyance on the condition that Thompson does not continue in business during the first year of the suspension. As part of the suspension,

Rickey Thompson can not be employed by any dealer, market agency, packer, business associate, family member, or any other affiliation or entity, whether paid or unpaid, to perform any activities in connection with livestock transactions subject to the jurisdiction of the P&S Act for one year.

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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