

Decision Issued Against Lee Andrew Jarosek II D.B.A. Joe Cattle Co.

Washington, May 27, 2004 - On May 7, 2004 the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued a default decision against Lee Andrew Jarosek, II who is doing business as Joe Cattle Company (Joe Cattle) of Bastrop, Texas. Joe Cattle is engaged in the business of buying and selling livestock in commerce for his own account and as a registered dealer, a market agency, and a clearor for two separately registered dealers. Joe Cattle is subject to the requirements of the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act) and regulations.

The default decision was issued after Joe Cattle failed to file a response to an administrative complaint issued by USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) on Sept. 24, 2003. The decision orders Joe Cattle to stop issuing checks in payment for livestock without having sufficient funds on deposit to pay the checks when they are presented for payment; and to stop failing to pay, when due, for the full purchase price of livestock. Under the terms of the order, Joe Cattle also was suspended as a registrant for a period of 5 years. After 180 days of his suspension have been served, Joe Cattle may ask the court to modify his suspension to allow his salaried employment by another registrant or packer.

The order came as a result of USDA's GIPSA filing a complaint against Joe Cattle alleging that he violated the P&S Act and regulations by issuing checks that were returned unpaid by the bank because there were insufficient funds in the account to pay checks when the checks were presented for payment. The complaint also alleged that Joe Cattle failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price of livestock. As of February 14, 2003, a total of \$145,898.21 remained unpaid by Joe Cattle.

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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