

GIPSA Issues A Complaint Against Little Joe Livestock Meats

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18, 2004 - On June 16, 2004, GIPSA filed a complaint against Little Joe Livestock Meats, Inc. and Joseph Pagliuso (Little Joe) of Ontario, N.Y. Little Joe is engaged in the business of buying and selling livestock in commerce for its own account, and is a registered dealer subject to the requirements of the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act.)

GIPSA alleges that Little Joe has issued checks in payment for livestock that were returned unpaid because Little Joe failed to keep and maintain sufficient funds in the account on which the checks were drawn.

Additionally Little Joe allegedly violated the P&S Act by failing to keep accounts, records, and memoranda that fully disclosed all transactions in its business. GIPSA also alleges that Little Joe purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, for the purchases amounting to \$19,771.81.

Failure to file an answer to GIPSA's complaint 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, Little Joe may be ordered to stop violating the P&S Act, suspended as a registrant operating 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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