

Faron Helvey Subject Of GIPSA Complaint

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18, 2004 - On April 16, 2004, USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) filed a complaint against Faron Helvey (Helvey) of Hondo, Texas. Helvey is registered under the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act) as a dealer and a market agency, buying and selling livestock on a commission basis.

GIPSA alleges that Helvey has failed to maintain an adequate bond or bond equivalent. Failure to maintain an adequate bond or bond equivalent is a violation of the P&S Act.

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 allegation is admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Helvey 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, meatpacking, and poultry industries.

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