

GIPSA Issues a Complaint Against Don Latham and Poplar Plains Livestock, Inc.

WASHINGTON, May 8, 2006 - On February 22, 2006, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) filed a complaint against Don Latham (Latham) and Poplar Plains Livestock, Inc. (Poplar), Flemingsburg, Kentucky. Poplar was engaged in the business of buying and selling livestock in commerce for its own account and registered as a dealer to buy livestock in commerce for its own account. Latham is President, Manager, one-hundred percent shareholder of Poplar, and is responsible for the day-to-day management, direction, and control of Poplar.

GIPSA alleges that Poplar under the direction of Latham and in violation of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act issued insufficient funds checks and failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price of livestock.

Failure to file an answer to GIPSA's complaint within the time allowed shall constitute an admission of the allegations. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Poplar and Latham may be ordered to cease and desist from violations found to exist, assessed a civil penalty, and suspended as registrants under the P&S Act.

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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