

## **Decision Reached in GIPSA's Case Against Weikert's Livestock, Inc. and Todd D. Weikert**

WASHINGTON, May 10, 2006 - On December 23, 2005, a complaint was issued charging that Weikert's Livestock, Inc. (Weikert's Livestock) and Todd D. Weikert (Weikert), Fairfield, Pennsylvania, had failed to pay for livestock purchases within the time period required by the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. On April 21, 2006, a consent decision agreed to by the parties was issued. Under the terms of the consent decision, Weikert's Livestock and Weikert were ordered to cease and desist from failing to pay, within the time period required by the P&S Act, the full purchase price of livestock, and were assessed a civil penalty of \$10,000. Weikert's Livestock was engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce for its own account; is registered as a dealer to buy and sell livestock in commerce; and as a market agency to buy livestock in commerce on commission. Weikert was president of Weikert's Livestock; engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce as the agent or employee of Weikert's Livestock; a dealer and a market agency within the meaning of these terms under the P&S Act and subject to the P&S Act; and not individually registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

As Weikert's Livestock and Weikert had demonstrated that they had completed making agreed payments to livestock sellers required by a prior consent decision issued on September 19, 2002, a supplemental order was issued on April 21, 2006, terminating the 10-year suspension that had been held in abeyance during the period restitution was made. The cease and desist provisions of this 2002 order remain in effect.

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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Catherine M. Grasso 202-720-7201  
[Catherine.M.Grasso@usda.gov](mailto:Catherine.M.Grasso@usda.gov)