

## **GIPSA Issues A Complaint Against Aplington Sales Commission, Inc.**

WASHINGTON, June 14, 2006 - On June 12, 2006, the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) filed a complaint against Aplington Sales Commission, Inc. (Aplington), Aplington, Iowa. GIPSA alleges that Aplington failed to properly maintain its Custodial Account for Shippers Proceeds causing shortages in its custodial account endangering payment to livestock sellers. Aplington failed to deposit in its custodial account, in a timely fashion, an amount equal to the proceeds received from the sale of consigned livestock. Additionally, Aplington allowed its bank to directly withdraw funds from its custodial account for repayment on a previously-issued loan.

Failure to file an answer to GIPSA's complaint within the time allowed constitutes an admission of the allegations. If the allegations are admitted or proven in an oral hearing, Aplington may be ordered to cease and desist from the violations found to exist; suspended; and assessed civil penalties as are authorized under the Packers and Stockyards (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.

GIPSA Release #53-06

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