

USDA Orders Atlantic Veal and Lamb Inc., Philip Peerless and Martin Weiner to Cease and Desist

WASHINGTON, February 23, 2007 - On February 7, 2007, the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) filed a decision without hearing by reason of consent against Atlantic Veal and Lamb (Atlantic), Philip Peerless (Peerless) and Martin Weiner (Weiner), Brooklyn, New York. All are packers subject to the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. The decision orders Atlantic, Peerless, and Weiner to:

- cease and desist from failing to pay the full amount of the purchase price for livestock when due; and
- assesses a civil penalty in the amount of \$12,500.

The decision results from an investigation by GIPSA followed by a complaint filed on November 21, 2006, in which GIPSA alleged Atlantic, Peerless, and Weiner purchased livestock on a carcass merit basis for slaughter and failed to pay, when due, the full amount of the purchase price for livestock.

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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