

GIPSA Charges James Gary Tankersley, d/b/a Express Meats with Violations of the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, June 7, 2007 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that James Gary Tankersley (Tankersley), doing business as Express Meats, Gainesville, Georgia, issued checks without having sufficient funds to cover checks; failed to pay sellers for the sale of their livestock within the time period required by the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act; and failed to keep records that fully disclosed all transactions involved in his business.

On April 27, 2007, GIPSA filed a complaint and notice of hearing against Tankersley. Tankersley had 20 days to respond in accordance with the P&S Act and to date, has not done so. Failure to file an answer to GIPSA's complaint within the time allowed is considered an admission of the allegations. Tankersley potentially faces a cease and desist order for violating the P&S Act and assessment of a civil penalty.

Tankersley currently operates as a packer and is in the business of buying livestock in commerce for slaughter.

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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