

GIPSA Alleges El Campo Livestock Co., Inc. and John Banker Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, July 14, 2009 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that El Campo Livestock Co., Inc. (El Campo) under the direction, management and control of John Banker (Banker), El Campo, Texas:

- failed to maintain their custodial account in strict conformity with the regulations; and;
- failed to reimburse their custodial account in a timely fashion resulting in a deficiency in funds available to pay shippers their proceeds.

GIPSA filed a complaint against El Campo and Banker on June 30, 2009. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, they may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended and assessed a civil penalty.

El Campo is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a market agency to sell livestock on commission and sells livestock in commerce on a commission basis.

Banker is president, 100% owner of El Campo, and manages, directs and controls the daily operations.

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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