

GIPSA Settles Two Cases Resulting in \$3,125 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17, 2009- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration's (GIPSA) enforcement rules provide a mechanism to quickly resolve violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. GIPSA may offer an alleged violator the option of waiving their right to a hearing and entering into a stipulation agreement to quickly resolve alleged violations.

GIPSA recently settled two cases resulting in \$3,125 in civil penalties.

Gene Isom, Sherman, Texas, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$2,500 after GIPSA found that he operated as a livestock dealer subject to the P&S Act without filing the required bond coverage.

James Giruzzi, Frankfort, New York, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$625 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay for livestock purchases in a timely manner.

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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