

GIPSA Alleges Jeff Dutton, dba Jeff Dutton Cattle Co., and dba Bar 7 Cattle Co. Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17, 2009 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Jeff Dutton (Dutton), doing business as Jeff Dutton Cattle Co., and doing business as Bar 7 Cattle Co., Texas:

- operated as a market agency buying livestock on commission without being properly bonded;
- issued checks in payment for livestock purchases which were returned unpaid; and
- as of November 4, 2009, failed to pay for \$59,533.92 worth of livestock purchases.

GIPSA filed a [complaint](#) against Dutton on December 3, 2009. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Dutton may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Dutton engaged in the business of buying and selling livestock as a dealer for his own account; as a market agency buying livestock in commerce on a commission basis; is not registered as a dealer or market agency with the Secretary of Agriculture; and operated as a dealer and a market agency within the jurisdiction of the Secretary at all times material to this complaint.

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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