

GIPSA Settles Five Cases Resulting in \$7,650 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, Mar. 04, 2010 - 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 five cases resulting in \$7,650 in civil penalties.

Rodney J. Wright, dba Wright Livestock, Inc., North Platte, Nebraska, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$875 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay, when due, for livestock.

Leslie Guy Casteel, Newell, South Dakota, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$1,125 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay, when due, for livestock.

Terry Blair, Terry Blair Livestock and Horse Sales, Alexandria, Tennessee, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$1,500 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay, when due, for livestock purchases.

Richard S. Hunter, dba H&H Farms, Baileyton, Alabama, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$3,400 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay, when due, for livestock.

Herman Schumacher, Herreid, South Dakota, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$750 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay, when due, for livestock.

The Packers and Stockyards 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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