

GIPSA Settles Cases Resulting in \$4,500 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24, 2011- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (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 \$4,500 in civil penalties.

Jimmy Kalka and Tiffany Kalka, dba Chandler Livestock Sales, LLC, Chandler, Oklahoma, waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$1,500 after GIPSA found that they failed to properly maintain their Custodial Account for Shippers' Proceeds resulting in shortages of \$3,805.85 and \$6,851.30, respectively.

Scot Blake, Elkton, Kentucky, waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$3,000 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay for livestock within the time period required by the P&S Act.

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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