

GIPSA Settles Cases Resulting in \$3,100 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, May 12, 2011- 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 settled two cases resulting in \$3,100 in civil penalties.

Larry Herd, Herne, Texas - Herd waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$1,800 after GIPSA found that he operated without bond (June 22, 2009, thru July 21, 2009) and operated with an inadequate bond (January 18, 2010, thru March 13, 2010).

Kenneth Gonnering Livestock, Inc., Seymour, Wisconsin - waived its right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$1,300 after GIPSA found that it 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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