

GIPSA Settles Three Cases Resulting in \$9,275 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, June 30, 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 recently settled three cases resulting in \$9,275 in civil penalties.

Christopher Arnaman, Cameron, Ohio - waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$2,425 after GIPSA found that he had failed to pay when due for livestock; issued insufficient funds checks; deceptive trade practices; and marked up prices and weights.

Steve Sterchi, Oakland, Ky. - waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$3,000 after GIPSA found that he had operated without a proper bond and operated without being registered.

Clarence W. Van Handel & Sons, Kaukauna, Wis. - waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and paid a penalty of \$3,850 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.

#

GIPSA Release 47-11

Catherine M. Grasso 202-720-7201
Catherine.M.Grasso@usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272(voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).