

## **GIPSA Alleges Welch Stockyards, LLC, and Darrel R. Clark Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 2011- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration's (GIPSA) has found evidence that Welch Stockyards, LLC (Welch Stockyards) and Darrel R. Clark (Clark), Seneca, Mo.:

- misused its custodial account by using the custodial account funds to pay for outstanding loans;
- misused its custodial account by permitting the withdrawal of bank charges from its custodial account;
- issued insufficient funds checks; and
- failed to timely remit the net proceeds due to consignors from the sale of livestock on a commission basis. After payout from Welch Stockyards' bond, \$35,490.74 remains unpaid.

GIPSA filed a **complaint** against Welch Stockyards and Clark on September 6, 2011. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Welch Stockyards and Clark may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Welch Stockyards engaged in the business of a market agency selling livestock in commerce on a commission basis and is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a dealer to buy and sell livestock in commerce and as a market agency to sell livestock in commerce on a commission basis.

Clark is the sole member of Welch Stockyards, owner, and responsible for the direction, management, and control of Welch Stockyards.

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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