

**GIPSA  
Press  
Release**

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,  
Packers and  
Stockyards  
Administration

STOP 3601  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C.  
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GIPSA Release 82-11

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**GIPSA Alleges Ashville Stockyard, Inc., and Bradley and Tilda Plunkett Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3, 2011 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Ashville Stockyard, Inc. (Ashville), of Ashville, Alabama, and Bradley and Tilda Plunkett:

- operated with a Custodial Account for Shippers’ Proceeds shortage;
- failed to timely reimburse the custodial account;
- withdrew bank charges from the custodial account;
- issued checks without having sufficient funds to cover checks; and
- failed to remit, when due the net proceeds due from the sale of livestock on a commission basis.

GIPSA filed a [complaint](#) against Ashville and Bradley and Tilda Plunkett on September 15, 2011. If the allegations are admitted, or if proven in an oral hearing, Ashville and Bradley and Tilda Plunkett may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, or may be suspended and assessed a civil penalty.

Ashville was engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock for its own account or account of others and as a market agency buying and selling livestock in commerce on a commission basis; and is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

Bradley Plunkett is President and a 100% shareholder of Ashville, and has together with Tilda Plunkett managed, directed, and controlled Ashville. Bradley Plunkett is not separately registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a dealer who buys and sells livestock in commerce or as a market agency to buy on commission.

Ashville Stockyards, Inc.

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).

Tilda Plunkett is secretary and treasurer of Ashville, and has together with Bradley Plunkett managed, directed, and controlled Ashville. Tilda Plunkett is not separately registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a dealer who buys and sells livestock in commerce or as a market agency buying on commission.

The P&S Act is a fair trade practice and payment protection law that promotes fair and competitive marketing environments for the livestock, meat, and poultry industries.