

GIPSA Enforcement Action

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

STOP 3601
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C.
20250-3601

GIPSA Release 112-11

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GIPSA Settles Cases Resulting in \$20,490 in Civil Penalties

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25, 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 cases resulting in \$20,490 in civil penalties.

Garret Maxey, Greeley, Colo. -- waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$1,000 after GIPSA found that he operated without a financial instrument.

Iowa Select Farms, L.L.P., Iowa Falls, Iowa -- waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$6,000 after GIPSA found that they failed to disclose that additional capital investments may be required (Section 208); and identifying a Federal judicial district other than the one in which the principle part of the performance takes place (swine production contract grower’s farm) as the forum for resolving disputes under a swine production contract (Section 209).

Beltex Corporation, dba Frontier Meats, Fort Worth, Texas – waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$3,525 after GIPSA found that they failed to pay, in a timely manner, for livestock purchases.

Leo Overturf, dba Leo Overturf Sheep, Sutton, Neb. – waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$3,765 after GIPSA found that he failed to issue timely payments and engaged in unfair and deceptive practices.

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Ronald Lemons, Lewisburg, W.Va. – waived his right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$6,200 after GIPSA found that he failed to pay, when due, for livestock.

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.

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