

**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 283-12

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Michael T. Godberson has been assessed a \$42,250 Civil Penalty

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25, 2012 – On August 30, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) entered into a decision with Michael T. Godberson, Okla.

Michael T. Godberson has been ordered to cease and desist from engaging in business in any capacity for which bonding is required without filing and maintaining an adequate bond or its equivalent.

Michael T. Godberson is prohibited from registering to engage in business subject to the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act for a period of 30 days. After expiration of this 30 day period, Michael T. Godberson may engage in business subject to the P&S Act after submitting an application for registration to GIPSA along with the required bond or bond equivalent; except that he is not to be registered unless he provides proof of payment in full to any seller of livestock who did not receive full payment in the transactions that are the subject of this adjudication.

Michael T. Godberson has also been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$42,250; except that payment of that penalty is suspended for so long as he remains in compliance with the P&S Act and prevailing regulation. Should he engage in activities covered by the P&S Act without fulfilling the obligations in this order, the penalty will become immediately due.

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.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Office of Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).