

**GIPSA
Press
Release**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

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

GIPSA Release 291-12

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**Tallgrass Beef Company, LLC
Has Been Assessed a \$402,816.53 Civil Penalty**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7, 2012 – On October 23, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration entered into a consent decision with Tallgrass Beef Company LLC (Tallgrass), a Del. company whose business address is in Sedan, Kan.

Tallgrass has been ordered to cease and desist from:

- failing to pay, when due, the full purchase price of livestock;
- engaging in the business of a packer when its financial condition does not meet the requirements of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act; and
- engaging in the business of a packer without maintaining a bond or bond equivalent.

Tallgrass has been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$402,816.53. The civil penalty will be reducible dollar-for-dollar by restitution made by Tallgrass to its unpaid livestock suppliers, up to a total reduction of \$352,816.53, in accordance with an Understanding Regarding Civil Penalty Payment Terms (Understanding) agreed to and ratified by the parties.

If Tallgrass fails to satisfy the terms of the Understanding, the remaining civil penalty, for which restitution has not been made, will become due in full immediately, upon application of GIPSA to the Administrative Law Judge, without further procedure. If Tallgrass satisfies the terms of the Understanding, Tallgrass will request that the Administrative Law Judge issue an order reducing the civil penalty dollar-for-dollar for restitution made.

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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