

**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 43-12

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**GIPSA Alleges Darlington Livestock Market, Inc. and Robert B. Robeson
Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Darlington Livestock Market, Inc. (Darlington Livestock) and Robert B. Robeson (Robeson), Darlington, S.C.:

- failed to maintain his livestock scale so as to insure accurate weights;
- weighed livestock at other than their true and correct weights;
- paid sellers of the livestock on the basis of the false and incorrect weights; and
- issued accounts of purchase to the sellers of the livestock on the basis of the false and incorrect weights.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Darlington Livestock and Robeson on January 10, 2012. The complaint can be found on the GIPSA website: <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html>. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Darlington Livestock and Robeson may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Darlington Livestock under the direction, management, and control of Robeson is, and at all times was engaged in the business of conducting and operating Darlington Livestock a stockyard posted under and subject to the provisions of the P&S Act; engaged in the business of selling livestock in commerce on a commission basis; and is registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

Robeson is the owner and President of Darlington Livestock and formulated, directed, and controlled the policies, practices and activities of Darlington Livestock including the acts and practices alleged in this complaint. He is also engaged in the business of a market agency selling livestock on a commission basis in commerce.

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).

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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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