



Grain Inspection
Packers and
Stockyards Administration

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News Release

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Greg Ryken and Stockmen's Livestock, Inc. Assessed \$5,000 Civil Penalty

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16, 2017 – On August 9, 2017, Greg Ryken (Ryken) and Stockmen's Livestock, Inc. (Stockmen's), Yankton, S.D., waived their right to a hearing and entered into a stipulation agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). Ryken and Stockmen's paid a penalty of \$5,000 after GIPSA found that Ryken and Stockmen's altered or fabricated purchase invoices with livestock weights unsupported by documentation and differing in amount from the actual sale weights for the same livestock. They also made, issued, or circulated false or misleading reports, records, or representations concerning the price or sale of livestock.

GIPSA enforcement rules provide a mechanism to quickly resolve violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. GIPSA may offer alleged violators the option of waiving their right to a hearing and entering into a stipulation agreement to quickly resolve alleged violations.

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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