GIPSA	United States	Grain Inspection,	STOP 3601
Enforcement	Department of Agriculture	Packers and	1400 Independence Ave., SW
Action		Stockyards Administration	Washington, D.C. 20250-3601
GIPSA Release 17-12	Catherine M. Grasso 202-720-7201		

GIPSA Release 1/-12

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## GIPSA Settles a Case Resulting in a \$4,000 Civil Penalty

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19, 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 a case resulting in a \$4,000 civil penalty.

**Thomas Cattle Buying Services, Inc., Wiliston, Fla.** -- waived their right to a hearing, entered into a stipulation agreement, and agreed to pay a penalty of \$4,000 after GIPSA found that they 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.

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).