

**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 174-12

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GIPSA Alleges West Coast Commodities, LLC, d/b/a M. Partlow Co., and Michael Paul Partlow Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, July 5, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that West Coast Commodities (West Coast Commodities), LLC, doing business as M. Partlow Co. and Michael Paul Partlow (Partlow), Portland, Ore.

- bought and sold livestock in commerce without being registered with the Secretary of Agriculture and did not maintain an adequate bond;
- failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price for livestock within the time period required by the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act;
- issued a check in payment for livestock without having or maintaining sufficient funds available; and
- failed to keep and maintain records which fully and correctly disclosed all transaction involved in their business.

GIPSA filed a complaint against West Coast Commodities and Partlow on June 15, 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, West Coast Commodities and Partlow may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act and assessed a civil penalty.

West Coast Commodities under the direction, management, and control of Partlow is engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce and is not registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

Partlow is president, sole owner, and responsible for the direction, management and control of West Coast Commodities. Partlow is also engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce and is not registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

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).

West Coast Commodities, LLC,
d/b/a M. Partlow Co.
Michael Paul Partlow
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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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