GIPSA Press

Release

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Agriculture

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration STOP 3601 1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, D.C.

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## GIPSA Alleges JLA, LLC, dba Marshall Livestock Auction, Carey Jones, and Martha Jones Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, July 20, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that JLA (JLA), LLC, doing business as Marshall Livestock Auction, Carey Jones and Martha Jones, Marshall, Mo.:

- failed to properly maintain its Custodial Account for Shippers' Proceeds endangering the faithful and prompt accounting and payment of portions due to the owners or consignors of livestock;
- failed to deposit in its custodial account amounts equal to the proceeds receivable from the sale of consigned livestock; whether or not such proceeds had been collected by the market agency;
- misused its custodial account by withdrawing funds for a purpose other than (1) for payment of the net proceeds to the consignor or shipper, or to any person that the market agency knows is entitled to payment; (2) to pay lawful charges against the consignment of livestock which the market agency shall, in its capacity as agent, be required to pay, or (3) to obtain any sums due the market agency as compensation for its services;
- generated false invoices for two livestock buyers; and
- failed to keep and maintain records which fully and correctly disclosed all of the transactions involved in their business.

GIPSA filed a complaint against JLA and Carey and Martha Jones on April 11, 2012. The complaint can be found on the GIPSA website: <a href="http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html">http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html</a>. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, JLA and Carey and Martha Jones may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

JLA engaged in the business of a market agency selling livestock in commerce on a commission basis and is 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).

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Carey and Martha Jones were the owners of JLA; corporate officers and corporate directors of JLA; responsible for the day-to-day management, direction, and control of JLA; and engaged in the business of a market agency subject to the provisions of the P&S Act.

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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