

**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 22-12

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**GIPSA Alleges Garden Halal Meat Market, LLC, Mohamed Chitaoui
and Fedal Lahsane Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Garden Halal Meat Market, LLC, Mohamed Chitaoui, and Fedal Lahsane (the respondents), Boston, Mass.:

- purchased livestock and failed to pay, within the time period required in the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, the full amount of the purchase price for livestock; and
- failed to keep and maintain corporate records, all purchase and sale invoices, documents permitting the tracing of livestock from purchase through slaughter, and documents permitting the tracing of all payments made for livestock purchases involved in its business as a packer.

GIPSA filed a complaint against the respondents on December 9, 2011. 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, the respondents may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act and assessed a civil penalty.

Garden Halal Meat Market, LLC is a Massachusetts limited liability company whose registered agent in Massachusetts is Mohamed Chitaoui. Garden Halal Meat Market, LLC was engaged in the business of purchasing livestock in commerce for purposes of slaughter and a packer subject to the provisions of the P&S Act.

At the time of the alleged violations, Mohamed Chitaoui and Fedal Lahsane collectively owned 100% of Garden Halal Meat Market, were members of the LLC, and were responsible for the direction, management, and control of Garden Halal Meat, LLC.

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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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