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 103-12

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## GIPSA Alleges Robert Witt and Thomas Witt Violated The Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, Apr. 19, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Robert Witt and Thomas Witt:

- failed to properly maintain their custodial account in that their custodial account had shortages; and
- these shortages were due, in part, to Robert and Thomas Witt's failure to deposit into its custodial accounts an amount equal to the proceeds receivable from the sale of consigned livestock and to the withdrawal of bank charges from their custodial account.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Robert and Thomas Witt on March 27, 2012. The complaint can be found on the GIPSA website: http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html. If the allegations are admitted, or

http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html. If the allegations are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Robert and Thomas Witt may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Robert and Thomas Witt were each 50% owners of KWW (KWW), LLC, doing business as Grove Livestock. Robert and Thomas Witt have ceased operations of KWW and the company is currently inactive. They were engaged in the business of a market agency selling livestock on a commission basis and are registered with the Secretary of Agriculture.

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).