

**GIPSA
Press
Release**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

STOP 3601
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Washington, D.C.
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GIPSA Release 114-12

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**GIPSA Alleges Stephen Smeal, dba Fatted Calf Cattle Farms #6
Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, May 3, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Stephen Smeal (Smeal), doing business as Fatted Calf Cattle Farms #6, Canton, Texas:

- purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, for livestock;
- purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price for livestock; and
- did not maintain sufficient funds in his account to pay for livestock purchases.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Smeal on April 20, 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, Smeal may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Smeal was engaged in the business of buying livestock on a commission basis in commerce; engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce; and is not 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.

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