

**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

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GIPSA Release 119-12

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**GIPSA Alleges Ronald Ryan Shepard, Jr., aka Ronald Ryan Sheppard, Jr.,  
aka Ron Shephard, Jeremy E. Pierce, and Brookfield Cattle Company, LLC  
Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, May 3, 2012 – The Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has filed an administrative complaint against Ronald Ryan Shepard, Jr., also known as Ronald Ryan Sheppard, Jr., also known as Ron Shephard (Shepard), Jeremy E. Pierce (Pierce), and Brookfield Cattle Company, LLC (Brookfield Cattle) for violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act.

In its complaint, filed on April 12, 2012, GIPSA alleges that Shepard, Pierce, and Brookfield Cattle, bought and sold livestock in commerce without being properly registered with GIPSA and without filing a bond; issued checks in payment for livestock which were returned unpaid because they did not have sufficient funds on deposit to pay the checks; purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price for the livestock; and purchased livestock and failed to pay for the livestock purchased.

GIPSA’s administrative complaint can be found on the Internet at <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/psp/enforcement.html>. If the allegations in the complaint are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, USDA may issue an order against Shepard, Pierce, Brookfield Cattle to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act and, in addition, assess them a civil penalty.

Shepard, who GIPSA alleges has engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce, is not registered with the Secretary of Agriculture. Shepard is also alleged to be responsible for the direction, management, and control of buying activities for Brookfield Cattle.

Pierce, who GIPSA alleges has engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce, is not registered with the Secretary of Agriculture. Pierce is also responsible for the direction, management, and control of Brookfield Cattle, and is the *alter ego* of Brookfield Cattle.

*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).*

Ronald Ryan Shepard, Jr., aka  
Ronald Ryan Sheppard, Jr., aka  
Ron Shephard  
Jeremy E. Pierce  
Brookfield Cattle Company, LLC  
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Brookfield Cattle is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Florida, and has a mailing address of P.O. Box 317, Goreville, Ill. 62939. Its principal place of business is at 5339 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Lane, Trenton, Fla. GIPSA alleges that Brookfield Cattle, under the direction, management, and control of Shepard and Pierce, at all times engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce, while 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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