

**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 155-12

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**GIPSA Alleges EROB, Inc., d/b/a Eel River Organic Beef, Inc.,
d/b/a Eel River Organic Beef and Clinton J. Victorine
Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, June 11, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that EROB, Inc. (EROB), doing business as Eel River Organic Beef, Inc., doing business as Eel River Organic Beef, Fortuna, Calif., and Clinton J. Victorine (Victorine), Hydesville, Calif.:

- purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price for the livestock;
- utilized written contracts lacking the packer trust waivers required under section 201.200 of the regulations (9 C.F.R. § 201.200) in order to be valid credit agreements under section 409(b) of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act (7 U.S.C. § 228b (b)); and
- had current liabilities that exceeded their current assets.

GIPSA filed a complaint against EROB and Victorine on May 16, 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, EROB and Victorine may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the P&S Act and assessed a civil penalty.

EROB, under the direction management, and control of Victorine was engaged in the business of buying livestock in commerce for the purpose of slaughter, and of manufacturing or preparing meats or meat products for sale or shipment in commerce. EROB is also a packer and subject to the provisions of the P&S Act.

Victorine was President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary of EROB. He also owns 65% of the stock issued by EROB and is the *alter ego* of EROB.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for 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).

EROB, Inc.
doing business as Eel River Organic Beef, Inc.
doing business as Eel River Organic Beef
Clinton J. Victorine
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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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