

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 220-12

Catherine M. Grasso 202-720-7201
Catherine.M.Grasso@usda.gov

GIPSA Alleges Mason Georges Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Mason Georges:

- engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce without being properly registered and without maintaining a bond or bond equivalent;
- issued checks in payment for livestock purchases which were returned unpaid; and
- purchased livestock and failed to pay, when due, for livestock purchases.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Mason Georges on July 31, 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, Mason Georges may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act, suspended, and assessed a civil penalty.

Mason Georges engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce; is a dealer; 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.

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