

**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 273-12

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

**Sammy Simmons and Wendy Simmons, d/b/a People's Livestock of
Cartersville have been assessed a \$58,000 Civil Penalty**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 2012 – On May 30, 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Chief Administrative Law Judge issued a default decision and order against Sammy Simmons and Wendy Simmons, doing business as People's Livestock of Cartersville, Cartersville, Ga. Sammy and Wendy Simmons appealed that default decision on August 8, 2012, which was denied. On September 20, 2012, USDA's Judicial Officer entered an order in this decision and order.

Sammy and Wendy Simmons have been ordered to cease and desist from:

- failing to pay, within the time period required by the Packers & Stockyards (P&S) Act, the full amount of the net proceeds due from the sale price of livestock sold on commission;
- issuing checks to consignors of livestock without having sufficient funds on deposit and available in the accounts from which those checks were drawn; and
- failing to maintain its Custodial Account for Shippers' Proceeds.

Sammy and Wendy Simmons have also been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$58,000 and are suspended as registrants for a period of five years.

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).