

**GIPSA
Press
Release**

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards
Administration

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GIPSA Release 42-12

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**GIPSA Alleges Clausen Meat Packing, Inc., Michelle Tsao, and
Kenneth Khoo Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 2012 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has found evidence that Clausen Meat Packing, Inc. (Clausen), Michelle Tsao (Tsao), and Kenneth Khoo (Khoo), Turlock, Calif., failed to pay, when due, the full purchase price for livestock.

GIPSA filed a complaint against Clausen, Tsao and Khoo on January 27, 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, Clausen, Tsao and Khoo may be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act and assessed a civil penalty.

Tsao and Khoo each owned 50% of Clausen and they were jointly responsible for the direction, management, and control of Clausen. Clausen engaged in the business of buying livestock in commerce for the purposes of slaughter; manufactured or prepared meat and meat food products for sale or shipment in commerce; had average annual purchases of livestock exceeding \$500,000; and operated as a packer.

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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