



Grain Inspection,
Packers and
Stockyards Administration

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GIPSA Settles a Case with Joe Fritz Resulting in a \$1,000 Penalty

WASHINGTON, June 16, 2016 – On May 26, 2016, Joe Fritz, Sikeston, Mo., waived his right to a hearing and entered into a stipulation agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA). Joe Fritz paid a penalty of \$1,000 after GIPSA found that he had induced three auction markets to create invoices showing purchase weights larger in amount than the actual sale weights. The larger weight amounts were not supported by documentation showing the livestock had been reweighed. Joe Fritz financially benefited from the reported weight increases when the livestock was resold through a related company.

GIPSA enforcement rules provide a mechanism to quickly resolve violations of the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act. GIPSA may offer alleged violators the option of waiving their right to a hearing and entering into a stipulation agreement to quickly resolve alleged violations.

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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