



Grain Inspection,  
Packers and  
Stockyards Administration

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# News Release

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## **GIPSA Settles a Case with John Stone, Hardrock Cattle Company, LLC Resulting in a \$5,000 Penalty**

**WASHINGTON**, March 9, 2017 – On Feb. 20, 2017, John Stone, Hardrock Cattle Company, LLC, Palestine, Texas, waived their 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). They paid a penalty of \$5,000 after GIPSA found that they failed to pay, when due, for livestock purchases.

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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