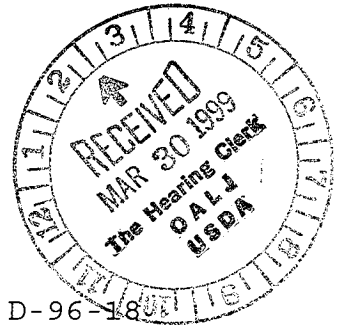


Davis

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



In re:)	P. & S. Docket No. D-96-18
)	
L & S Cattle Company, a)	
partnership, Doug Sasseen)	
and Donnie Stidham,)	
)	
Respondents)	Decision With Respect to
)	Respondent Donnie Stidham

This proceeding was instituted under the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U.S.C. § 181 et seq.) by a complaint and notice of hearing filed by the Deputy Administrator, Packers and Stockyards Programs, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the respondents wilfully violated the Act. This decision is entered pursuant to the consent decision provisions of the Rules of Practice applicable to this proceeding (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

The respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in paragraph I of the complaint and notice of hearing and specifically admits that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admits nor denies the remaining allegations, waives oral hearing and further procedure, and consents and agrees, for the purpose of settling this proceeding and for such purpose only, to the entry of this decision.

The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. L & S Cattle Company, hereinafter referred to as respondent L & S, is a partnership consisting of Colin Lafferty and Doug Sasseen whose business mailing address is HCR 80, Box 29C Bakersfield, Missouri 65609.

2. Respondent L & S is and at all times material herein was:

a. Engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce for its own account and for the accounts of others;

b. Engaged in the business of a market agency buying livestock on a commission basis;

c. Registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a dealer to buy and sell livestock in commerce and as a market agency to buy livestock on a commission basis; and

d. Purchased livestock as an agent for Tennessee Dressed Beef Co., Inc. and Service Packing Company.

3. Doug Sasseen, hereinafter referred to as respondent Sasseen, is an individual whose business mailing address is HCR 80, Box 29C Bakersfield, Missouri 65609.

4. Respondent Sasseen is and at all times material herein was:

a. Engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce for his own account and for the accounts of others;

b. Engaged in the business of a market agency buying livestock on a commission basis; and

c. Registered as a partnership with Colin Lafferty with the Secretary of Agriculture as a dealer to buy and sell livestock in commerce and as a market agency to buy livestock on a commission basis.

5. Donnie Stidham, hereinafter referred to as respondent Stidham, is an individual whose business mailing address is P. O. Box 681, Lebanon, Missouri 65536.

6. Respondent Stidham is and at all times material herein was:

a. Engaged in the business of a dealer buying and selling livestock in commerce for his own account and for the accounts of others; and

b. Registered with the Secretary of Agriculture as a dealer to buy and sell livestock in commerce.

Conclusions

Because the respondent has admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties have agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

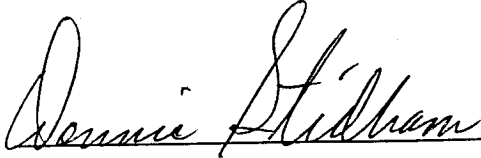
Order

Respondent Donnie Stidham, individually or through any corporate or other device, in connection with his operations subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act, shall cease and desist from engaging in unfair and deceptive practices under the Act by purchasing livestock, subsequently consigning that livestock and repurchasing the same livestock in order to artificially inflate prices for the ultimate purchasers of the livestock.

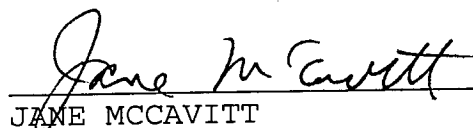
Respondent Donnie Stidham is suspended as a registrant under the Act for a period of ninety (90) days.

The provisions of this order shall become effective on the sixth day after service of this order on the respondent.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

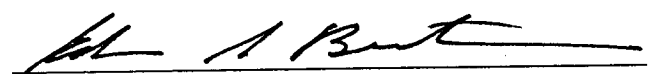


DONNIE STIDHAM
Respondent



JANE MCCAIVITT
Attorney for Complainant

Issued this 30 day of March 1989



EDWIN S. BERNSTEIN
Administrative Law Judge