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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

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In re:	)	
	)	
Ayah Slaughter House Limited Liability Company	)	P&S Docket No. D-16-0111
(a cancelled Virginia entity),	)	
d/b/a Lebanese Butchers Slaughter House	)	
(an unregistered Virginia entity),	)	
	)	
Samir Rababeh,	)	P&S Docket No. D-16-0112
	)	
and	)	
	)	
Kheder Rababeh	)	P&S Docket No. D-16-0113
	)	
Respondents	)	Consent Decision and Order

This proceeding was instituted under the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, as amended and supplemented (7 U.S.C. § 181 *et seq.*) ("the Act"), by a Complaint filed by the Deputy Administrator, Packers and Stockyards Program, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) (herein referred to as Complainant), alleging that the Respondent Ayah Slaughter House Limited Liability Company doing business as Lebanese Butchers Slaughter House (herein referred to as Respondent Ayah), Samir Rababeh (herein referred to as Respondent Samir Rababeh), and Kheder Rababeh (herein referred to as Respondent Kheder Rababeh) willfully violated the Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder (9 C.F.R. § 201.1 *et seq.*). This Consent Decision and Order is entered pursuant to the consent decision provision of the Rules of Practice Governing Formal Adjudicatory Proceedings Instituted by the Secretary Under Various Statutes (7 C.F.R. § 1.138) (Rules of Practice).

Respondents admit the jurisdictional allegations in paragraph I of the Complaint and

specifically admit that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, admit remaining allegations, waive oral hearing and further procedure, and consent and agree, for the purpose of settling this proceeding and for such purpose only, to the entry of this consent decision.

Complainant agrees to the entry of this consent decision.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent Ayah was a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2012. Respondent Ayah was canceled as a Virginia entity in approximately 2013. Since approximately 2013 Ayah Slaughter House Limited Liability Company has continued doing business as Lebanese Butchers Slaughter House. Lebanese Butchers Slaughter House is an unregistered Virginia entity.

2. Respondent Ayah's business and mailing address is 241 West Shirley Avenue, Warrenton VA 20148. Respondent Ayah's registered agent is and was Respondent Samir Rababeh whose business address is 241 West Shirley Avenue, Warrenton VA 20148.

3. Respondent Ayah, is, and, at all times material herein, was:

a. Engaged in the business of buying livestock in commerce for the purposes of slaughter; and

b. A Packer within the meaning of and subject to the provisions of the Act.

4. Respondent Ayah is and was under the direction, management, and control of Respondent Samir Rababeh. Respondent Samir Rababeh is, and, at all times material herein, was:

a. Owner of Respondent Ayah;

b. Registered Agent of Respondent Ayah;

c. Engaged in the business of buying livestock in commerce for the purposes of slaughter; and

d. A Packer within the meaning of and subject to the provisions of the Act.

5. Respondent Samir Rababeh is an individual. In order to protect the personal privacy of Respondent Samir Rababeh, Complainant did not provide Respondent Samir Rababeh's address in the Complaint. However, Complainant provided Respondent Samir Rababeh's correct address to the Hearing Clerk so that service could be effected.

6. Respondent Ayah is and was under the direction, management, and control of Respondent Kheder Rababeh. Respondent Kheder Rababeh is, and, at all times material herein, was:

a. An employee and agent of Respondent Ayah;

b. Engaged in the business of buying livestock in commerce for the purposes of slaughter; and

c. A Packer within the meaning of and subject to the provisions of the Act.

7. Respondent Kheder Rababeh is an individual. In order to protect the personal privacy of Respondent Kheder Rababeh, Complainant did not provide Respondent Kheder Rababeh's address in the Complaint. However, Complainant provided Respondent Kheder Rababeh's correct address to the Hearing Clerk so that service could be effected.

8. Respondents were served the Complaints in this case on or about June 1, 2016.

Conclusion

Respondents having admitted the jurisdictional facts, admitted remaining allegations, and the parties having agreed to the entry of this Consent Decision and Order, the Consent Decision and Order will be entered.

Order

Respondent Ayah, Respondent Samir Rababeh, Respondent Kheder Rabaheh, their agents and employees, directly or through any corporate or other device, in connection with their operations subject to the Act and regulations, shall cease and desist from failing to pay the full purchase price of livestock as required by sections 202(a) and 409 of the Act (7 U.S.C. §§ 192(a) and 228b) and section 201.43 of the regulations (9 C.F.R. § 201.43).

Pursuant to section 203(b) of the Act (7 U.S.C. § 193(b)), Respondents are assessed jointly and severally a civil penalty in the amount of one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000.00). The \$110,000.00 civil penalty will be held in abeyance so long as Respondents pay restitution to the parties named in the Understanding and in accordance with the terms of the Understanding.

This Order shall have the same force and effect as if entered after full hearing. The provisions of this order shall become final and effective on the sixth day after service of this consent decision and order on the respondent.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

By: Samir Rababeh
Title: Owner
Ayah Slaughter House Limited Liability Company
Respondent

[Redacted Signature]
Samir Rababeh
Respondent

[Redacted Signature]
Kheder Rababeh
Respondent

[Redacted Signature]
Michael Hadeed
Attorney for Respondent

USBA 24589


John V. Rodriguez
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 20th day of August, 2016


Administrative Law Judge