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**USDA files action over \$278K PACA violations**

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July 21, 2021

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has filed an administrative complaint against Ringer & Son Brokerage Co. Inc. for alleged violations of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act. The company, operating from Colorado, allegedly failed to make payment promptly to nine produce sellers in the amount of \$278,943 from May 2019 through December 2019.

Ringer & Son Brokerage Co. Inc. will have an opportunity to request a hearing. Should USDA find that the company committed repeated and flagrant violations, it would be barred from the produce industry as a licensee for three years, or two years with the posting of a USDA-approved surety bond. Furthermore, its principals could not be employed by or affiliated with any PACA licensee for two years, or one year with the posting of a USDA-approved surety bond.

In the past three years, USDA resolved approximately 3,625 PACA claims involving more than \$104 million. PACA staff also assisted more than 7,600 callers with issues valued at approximately \$166 million.

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