



Randy Patterson cleared of criminal charges

A Kansas cattle buyer and his company have been cleared of all criminal charges after a federal judge found prosecutors did not present enough evidence at trial for the case to go to the jury.

A court notation shows U.S. District Judge J. Thomas Marten granted the defense's motion Friday to acquit Randall D. Patterson and the Anthony Livestock Co.

Federal prosecutors had accused the Harper County cattle buyer of wire fraud for allegedly faxing invoices to JBS Five Rivers Cattle Feeding that falsely inflated the amount paid for cattle.

Statement from Patterson and his attorneys:

One of the country's largest cattle dealers, Randy Patterson, of Anthony, Kansas, was cleared today of all criminal charges in Federal Court in Wichita. After nearly a full year and five different indictments, Patterson's lawyers, Funk, Szachacz and Diamond, requested the judge dismiss the case after the Government rested its case. Judge J. Thomas Marten agreed that there simply was not enough evidence to go to the jury. As a result, Patterson and Anthony Livestock were acquitted.

"We're so happy that the truth came out, we've been saying since we reviewed this case that Randy was innocent and that the FBI and Packers and Stockyards totally missed the boat", said Kepler Funk, one of Patterson's trial lawyers.

"Randy Patterson is as straight a shooter as we've ever represented", added Alan Diamond, another one of Randy's Florida counsel."