

Members can depend on KLA

WHETHER IT'S QUESTIONS ON TAXES, REGULATIONS OR CERTAIN LEGAL MATTERS, KLA IS HERE TO HELP

When members have an issue affecting their business, they are not alone. KLA staff is only a phone call away and they stand ready to assist with any troubleshooting needs. Whether it's sales tax questions, labor issues, legal matters, navigating disaster relief programs, dealing with a government agency or industry issues on which members want to take a stand, KLA can provide invaluable information and resources. In many cases, the staff has experience in situations facing members because other producers previously have been confronted by the same circumstances.

Following are examples of how KLA has helped members either individually or association-wide. Members faced with a problem related to the livestock business should make KLA their first call!

A KLA member called the office after having a couple stray cows show up at their operation. Attempts to find the owner were not successful, so they contacted KLA to understand how stray livestock laws work in Kansas. Staff advised the member of the appropriate process for taking up stray livestock under Kansas law, including the required notice that must be given to local law enforcement in order to recover damages and costs associated with the care and feeding of the stray cattle.

Many pasture leases are oral in Kansas and multiple members have called regarding the proper procedure to terminate such an agreement. KLA legal staff informed them a landlord must provide written notice terminating the lease at least 30 days prior to March 1. The same is true for members leasing property. KLA has assisted both members who are landlords and those who are tenants faced with lease termination.

A member was updating their employee policy guide and contacted KLA for assistance. Staff provided a draft employee policy guide to offer guidance on a few key issues. KLA legal staff also provided a complete review of the changes they made to their policy manual and gave suggestions for improvements.

KLA has been a supporter of the Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program from the beginning. Today, this producer-driven program is the most widely accepted animal welfare program in the nation. In conjunction with the beef checkoff, KLA ensures members

have access and opportunities to participate in a variety of BQA trainings, both in person and online, to meet consumer desires for responsibly raised beef.

A member had trouble with a form to become exempt from certain sales taxes on utilities. KLA was able to work with the Kansas Department of Revenue to calculate the correct exemption percentage when two different exemptions applied.

KLA worked with Kansas State University and Aimpoint Research to better understand stockwater and irrigation water right holders' attitudes toward water conservation initiatives. The producer-directed and -facilitated discussions engaged the entire supply chain and identified opportunities to further producer participation on water conservation initiatives.

A KLA member called the office while contemplating a new backgrounding facility. KLA staff visited with the member about the regulatory requirements, went to the site for an initial review and discussed options for moving the project forward.

Before adding a new livestock scale, a KLA member called the office to see if the purchase and installation would be subject to sales tax. A livestock scale is considered farm machinery and, therefore, exempt from sales tax.

KLA staff helped a member locate a drone spraying service and connected them with the right individuals to determine the appropriate herbicide they should use.

While considering leasing an additional set of cattle feeding pens, a member called the office to discuss how to proceed. The location was not currently occupied or permitted and there was a question about getting it into compliance. KLA staff can help clarify regulatory requirements and KLA Environmental Services Inc. has the technical expertise to handle detailed permitting questions. Working together helps ensure projects like this move forward with confidence. ■