

# KLA stands ready

## WHETHER IT'S QUESTIONS ON TAXES, LEASE AGREEMENTS OR REGULATORY ISSUES, KLA CAN HELP

**A** KLA member called the office after several low-flying fighter aircraft regularly passed over their dairy heifer development facility on routine training runs. KLA staff worked with the U.S. Senate delegation from Kansas to identify the appropriate military contacts. Military officials were quickly contacted and flight path adjustments were made that addressed the problem. The U.S. military was very professional and quick to address the concern.

**A**fter hearing a county meeting presentation that included a quick review of what qualifies for Kansas sales tax exemptions, a member called the office to discuss claiming a refund on a piece of farm machinery and equipment. Sales tax had mistakenly been paid and a refund can be obtained up to 36 months. KLA staff helped the member through the process of successfully claiming the refund.

**K**LA staff helped a member find an attorney in another state after payment was not made by the buyer on cattle shipped under a contract.

**B**efore starting construction on cattle feeding pens, a KLA member called the office and staff went over possible regulatory issues. At the top of the list is the proper siting of a new facility that meets separation distances from habitable structures. Kansas requires new confined beef feeding facilities under 1,000 head, but over 300 animal units, to be located 1,320 feet from the nearest habitable structure. New locations over 1,000 head must be located 4,000 feet from habitable structures. Some exceptions apply, so it is best to call the office for information.

**K**LA staff visited with a member who had installed a new water pump and solar panels to water cattle and was charged sales tax. KLA was able to help the member get the tax removed from the purchase.

**A** KLA member was asked to participate in a career day event for 960 fourth graders in an urban school district. She called the KLA office requesting information to supplement her presentation about how they feed the grains and hay they raise to their cattle and produce the beef used to make cheeseburgers. KLA staff worked with the Kansas Beef Council to select an age-appropriate brochure containing nutrition information, beef recipes just for kids and puzzles to distribute to the students.

**A** KLA member was making plans to build a new feedmill. To maximize efficiency, truck flow and safety, an additional highway entrance was required. KLA helped organize a meeting with Kansas Department of Transportation officials to discuss the requirements for getting such an entrance approved.

**A** member called needing a pasture lease agreement for land they were intending to lease. The KLA legal staff worked with the member to create a lease that worked for their operation.

**U**tilities needed to pump and circulate water and process feed for livestock are exempt from sales tax. A member called the office to confirm the exemption after noticing changes to their utility bill. While the exemption previously had been provided, a billing system change at the utility company inadvertently caused sales tax to be added. KLA provided the necessary documentation and the member was able to claim a refund and ensure the exemption moving forward.

**K**LA legal staff assisted a member in keeping a current pasture lease when a new landlord tried to increase rent on an oral lease after the statutory deadline had passed to give written notice to terminate an oral farm lease or change the lease terms. The deadline is thirty days prior to March 1.

**W**hile 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.

**A** member contacted the KLA office to check if sales tax should be charged for concrete being poured for new feed bins being installed at his feeding operation. KLA staff helped him apply for a project exemption certificate that grants a sales tax exemption for the entire project, including the concrete. The call to KLA saved this producer more than \$1,000 in sales tax. ■