



Animal Welfare Institute

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Incl.

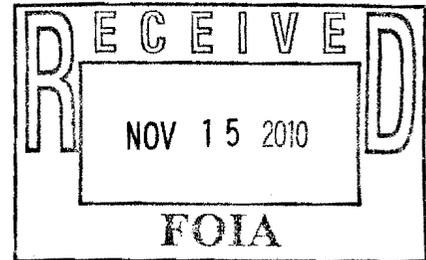
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November 10, 2010

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* SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL *

Freedom of Information Act Officer
US Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737-1232



DEC 14 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI), I wish to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. §552, *et seq.*) for all documents, notes, memoranda, reports, correspondence, letters, electronic mail, minutes of meetings, photographs and any other materials possessed by the US Department of Agriculture, which may be located in field offices, regional offices or its headquarters, related to the planning and execution of a conference called, "Animal Welfare and Scientific Research: 1985 to 2010" which was held on October 25-26 at the Bethesda North Marriot Hotel and Convention Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Information requested includes but is not limited to materials relating to federal or private (non-profit and business organization) funding of the conference.

Please include materials covering the past three years, at minimum. If any information is withheld, please identify all such information with specificity and provide all information required under 7 C.F.R. §1.7.

The information subject to this request will be used to inform and educate concerned individuals about the agency's activities regarding the welfare of animals covered under the Animal Welfare Act. It is requested that fees be waived for document search, review, duplication or other costs associated with answering this request because AWI is an educational organization with 501(c)3 status. AWI does not have a commercial, trade, or profit interest in the information being requested. Additionally, disclosure of this information is in the public interest as it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and/or activities of the government and is not in the commercial interest of the requester. 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii).

I look forward to your response within twenty working days, as required by 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(6)(A)(i). Please call me at 2 if you have any questions or are in need of further information.

Thank you very much for your assistance with this request.

Sincerely,

Tracy Silverman, Esq.