

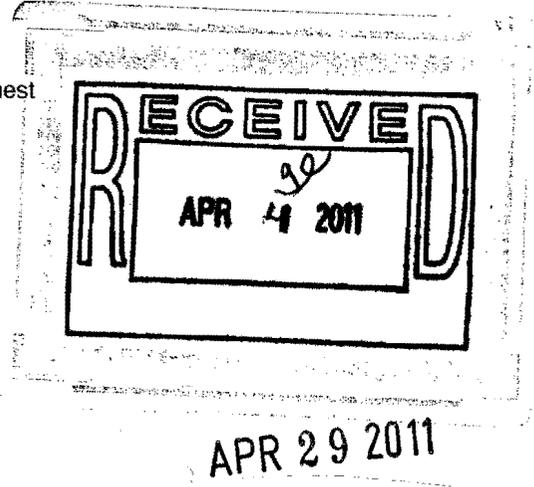
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*Sophie
AC
Individual*



@peta.org>
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To "foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov"
<foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject FOIA Request



April 1, 2011

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Director, Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Staff
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request for public records made on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) pursuant to the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended.

PETA requests all agency records related in any way to the USDA investigation of Tier 1 Group, LLC (USDA/APHIS/AC Case # E11-051) pursuant to a complaint from PETA dated December 7, 2010, that was addressed to the USDA's Eastern Regional AC Director, Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer.

The records PETA seeks should include, but not be limited to, the following: The investigation report, complaints, decisions and orders, officials warnings, stipulations, witness statements, records of veterinary care, correspondence, memoranda, meeting notes and minutes, notes and summaries of conversations and interviews, e-mails, and any other forms of written or recorded communication, including internal agency staff memoranda, photographs, videotapes, Animal Care inspection reports, and records of violations and alleged violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

PETA is a non-profit public interest animal protection organization whose federal tax-exempt number is 521218336. As such, we request that all fees associated with our request for public information be waived pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552 (a)(4)(A)(iii). PETA has no commercial interest in the records requested, but seeks them strictly in an effort to ensure the public is fully informed about operations and regulations involving the use of animals in laboratories (an issue of well-established public importance). If the foregoing request for a fee waiver is denied, and fees are expected to exceed \$50.00, kindly notify me by telephone to this effect before this disclosure request is processed.

If you have any questions about our request, please contact me at
Thank you for your time and effort in promptly addressing this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,

Laboratory Investigations Division
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)