



August 3, 2011

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Legislative and  
Public Affairs

Freedom of  
Information

4700 River Road  
Unit 50  
Riverdale, MD  
20737-1232

Carney Chester  
People for the Ethical  
Treatment of Animals  
501 Front Street  
Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Ms. Carney:

This is in response to July 8, 2011, Freedom of Information Act request for any and all records relating to the USDA's inspection of Ringling's Red Unit in Colorado, Springs, Colorado, in June 2011. Your request was received on July 8, 2011, and assigned case number 11-638.

We conducted searches in the Office of Animal Care (AC) and Investigative and Enforcement Services (IES). AC found nine pages which are enclosed. Information has been withheld under FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This exemption protects information from disclosure when its release would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In addition, we withheld the same information under FOIA Exemption 7(C), 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C). This exemption protects from public disclosure records or information collected for law enforcement purposes when its release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Specifically, the names of Ringling's employees are redacted.

However, IES found no records.

You may appeal our determination of your request. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date of this letter to: Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Ag Box 3401, Washington, DC 20250-3401. Please refer FOIA 11-638 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, provide specific reasons why you believe modification of the determination is warranted.

If you have any questions, please contact the FOIA Staff at (301) 734-8296.

Sincerely,

*Tonya G. Woods*  
TGW

Tonya G. Woods  
Director  
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act  
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosures



Safeguarding American Agriculture

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