



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

NOV 12 2010

Mark J. Romeo, Esq.
Law Offices of Mark Romeo
235 Montgomery Street
Suite 410
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Mr. Romeo:

This is in response to your October 21, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records involving cases, casualty to two separate containers of live orchids being shipped from Taiwan to California in July 2009, through the Port of Oakland. Your request was received in this office on October 13, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 11-041.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and the enclosed five pages are responsive records to the request. However, information is being 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. The information being withheld under this exemption was the signatures of the applicant.

You may appeal our partial denial of this information. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be sent 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 to FOIA 11-041 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.

Because the cost to process your request was less than \$25.00, the fee has been waived. If you have any questions, please contact

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures



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