



United States
Department of
Agriculture

January 20, 2010

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

Mr. Laurence J. Lasoff, Counsel
KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP
The Hunte Corporation
Washington Harbour, Suite 400
3050 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007-5108

Dear Mr. Lasoff:

This is in response to your November 10, 2009, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request that was received in this office on November 10, 2009, and assigned case number FOIA 10-078. Please forgive the delay of this response.

You requested the following:

1. All requests filed by the HSUS under the Freedom of Information Act that seek records regarding the Hunte Corporation's operations, including information regarding its compliance with the Animal Welfare Act, as well as information regarding breeders from whom The Hunte Corporation purchases puppies and information regarding retailers to whom The Hunte Corporation sells its puppies.
2. All records supplied to the HSUS in response to the HSUS FOIA requests.
3. All communication between the HSUS and officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding The Hunte Corporation.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located the enclosed 31 pages of responsive documents responsive to items 1 and 2 of your request. These documents consist of two HSUS FOIA requests and 29 pages of inspection reports and application for licenses. Information has been withheld under Exemption (b)(4) of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(4). This exemption protects trade secrets and confidential commercial business information from public disclosure. We are withholding line item cost.

Also, 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 disclosure records or information collected for law enforcement purposes when its release could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.



Safeguarding American Agriculture

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Mr. Laurence J. Lasoff
FOIA 10-078

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With respect to item 3 of your request, the program office has conducted a search of their files and did not locate any additional records. Therefore, we have no records responsive to this portion of your request.

You may appeal our partial denial of information and finding of no additional information. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date on this letter to the following address:

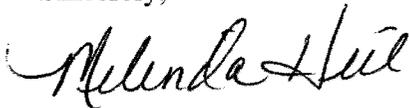
Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, DC 20250-3401

If you choose to appeal, please refer to FOIA 10-078 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 of our delay in processing your request, the fees associated with the processing of your request have been waived.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Sophie Lau-Lopez of my staff at (301) 734-5360.

Sincerely,



for Celeste Camp
Acting Director
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosures