



United States
Department of
Agriculture

December 2, 2010

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Mr. Ryan Rinestine

Legislative and
Public Affairs

Freedom of
Information

Dear Mr. Rinestine:

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

This is in response to your November 18, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for any and all information on an investigation that is being done by USDA/APHIS/AC office in Raleigh, North Carolina, in regards to a cougar attack on

on May 25, 2009. Your request was received in this office on November 18, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 11-093.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located the enclosed eleven pages which are responsive to your request. Please note that portions of the information have been withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemption 6, 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(6). Exemption (b)(6) permit withholding of information which if released would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The same information has been withheld pursuant to 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. Specifically, we have withheld the owner's signatures.

You may appeal our partial denial determination. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received within 45 days of the date of this letter. Please send your appeal to:

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

If you choose to appeal, please refer to FOIA 11-093 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.

Mr. Ryan Rinestine
FOIA 11-093

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Because the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fee has been waived.
If you have any questions please contact Ms. Sophie Lau-Lopez of my staff at
(301) 734-5360.

Sincerely,



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

Enclosures