



August 22, 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

Ann Olson
Animal Folks MN

Dear Ms. Olson:

This is a partial response to your July 25, 2011, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for photographs, CD, and DVDs, concerning USDA licensed commercial dog and cat breeders in Minnesota, from January 1, 2007 through July 25, 2011. Also, you seek records regarding inspections and investigations of said breeders. Your request was received on July 26, 2011, and assigned case number 11-681.

Searches were conducted in the Office of Animal Care and Investigative and Enforcement Services (IES). Animal Care located 287 pages of photographs responsive to your request. However, 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. Specifically, we have redacted certain names and signatures of individuals who are not employed with the Government. Also, we have enclosed a DVD which contains two video clips.

With regard to inspections, you can view or obtain copies of inspection reports from our website at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/efoia/index.shtml.

We are awaiting the results of IES's search. As a result, our office is requesting a time extension to complete the processing of your request. Pursuant to the U.S Department of Agriculture FOIA Regulations, 7 CFR 1.16(b)(1), this extension is necessary because of the need to search for and collect records from field facilities separate from the office processing the request. Pursuant to the U.S Department of Agriculture FOIA Regulations, 7 CFR 1.16(b)(2), this extension is necessary because of the need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records that are the subject of a single request. Also, Pursuant to the U.S Department of Agriculture FOIA Regulations, 7 CFR 1.16(b)(3), this extension is necessary because of the need to consult with another Department, agency or USDA component who have substantial interest in the documents.

We have estimated that **the search for responsive records** will be completed on August 30, 2011. We anticipate having your request completed by September 9, 2011. If records are found, partial responses will be provided. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 301-734-3257, or write to: FOIA.Office@aphis.usda.gov. Our address is 4700 River Road Unit 50, Riverdale, MD 20737-1232.

Ann Olson
FOIA 11-681

2

Also contained on the CD-ROM are copies of your FOIA request, this response letter, and Adobe® Acrobat® Reader™, which is needed to view the responsive records. By opening rp505enu.exe and following the on-screen instructions, you will install Adobe Reader. After the installation, the Adobe Reader should render the PDF files correctly.

Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

for: Katy Rogers

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

Enclosures



Safeguarding American Agriculture

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