



Animal and Plant  
Health Inspection  
Service

February 22, 2016

Office of the  
Administrator

Dear Stakeholders:

1400 Independence  
Avenue SW  
Washington, DC  
20250

Back on January 4, I announced Bernadette Juarez as acting Deputy Administrator for our Animal Care (AC) program. Today, I am announcing her appointment is no longer acting, but permanent. Bernadette has replaced Dr. Chester Gipson, who retired on Jan 1. She will lead the program's many employees in protecting and ensuring the welfare of millions of animals nationwide that are covered under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and the Horse Protection Act (HPA). For more information, I'm including a link to my original announcement.

[Jan 4, 2016 Announcement](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Shea". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kevin Shea  
APHIS Administrator