



MAY 26 2011

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Marketing &
Regulatory
Programs Business
Services

4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

John Dollarhite
c/o Richard Anderson
P.O. Box 2145
Branson West, MO 65737-2145

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT**

Dear Sir:

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) enforces the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. § 2131 *et seq.*) (AWA) and the regulations issued thereunder.

As explained in our letter dated April 19, 2011, APHIS' investigation documented alleged violations of the AWA involving the unlicensed sale of animals. The AWA authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, after providing notice and opportunity for hearing, to impose civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for each of the violations documented in our investigation.

We understand that you may no longer wish to engage in activity regulated by the AWA and would agree to a permanent disqualification from obtaining a license in lieu of paying a civil penalty to settle this matter. To be eligible to enter such an agreement, you must complete the following steps by no later than July 11, 2011:

- 1) Sell or donate, and transfer physical possession and ownership of your breeding animals, and spay or neuter those animals you intend to keep.
- 2) Arrange for an inspection to verify the disposition of the animals.
- 3) Furnish to Animal Care's Western Region Office (at the address below) any records requested to verify the disposition of the animals.

USDA, APHIS, AC
2150 Centre Ave, Bldg B
Ft. Collins, CO 80526

Please contact Ms. Laura Blanton at (970) 494-7458 to schedule your inspection and to answer any additional questions you may have.

You may contact our office at telephone number (301) 734-8684 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Sarah L. Conant
Chief, Animal Health and Welfare Enforcement Branch
Investigative and Enforcement Services



Safeguarding American Agriculture
APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Program
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