



OCT 21 2010

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Animal and  
Plant Health  
Inspection  
Service

Legislative and  
Public Affairs

Freedom of  
Information

4700 River Road  
Unit 50  
Riverdale, MD  
20737-1232

Ms. Delcianna Winders  
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals  
501 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

Dear Ms. Winders:

This is in response to your September 23, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records pertaining to:

1. All records pertaining to Andrea D. Ambrosio's June 2010 site visit to Chief Saunooke Bear Park in Cherokee, NC (Animal Welfare Act (AWA) exhibitor license no. 55-C-0125).
2. All records pertaining to Andrea D. Ambrosio's June 2010 site visit to Cherokee Bear Zoo in Cherokee, NC (AWA exhibitor license no. 55-C-0118).
3. All records pertaining to Dr. Laurie Gage's June 2010 site visit to Chief Saunooke Bear Park in Cherokee, NC (AWA exhibitor license no. 55-0125).
4. All records pertaining to Dr. Laurie Gage's June 2010 site visit to Cherokee Bear Zoo in Cherokee, NC (AWA exhibitor license no. 55-C-0118).
5. All additional records pertaining to any and all site visits to Chief Saunooke Bear Park in Cherokee, NC (AWA exhibitor license no. 55-C-0125) and/or Cherokee Bear Zoo in Cherokee, NC (AWA license no. 55-C-0118) in June 2010 involving any other USDA staff or consultants who were present at the visits or evaluated information pertaining to the visits.

Your request was received in this office on September 23, 2010, and assigned case number FOIA 10-687.

Agency employees conducted a thorough search of their files and located 14 pages responsive to your request. Please note that we have withheld portions of the information pursuant to one or more of the following FOIA Exemptions 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(2), (b)(6), (b)(7)(c), and/or (b)(7)(f).

Exemption 2 (high) protects from disclosure information concerning internal matters of a substantial nature, which if disclosed would risk the circumvention of a statute or agency regulation. The same information has also been withheld pursuant to Exemption 7F, which protects from disclosure law enforcement-related information, which if disclosed could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of an individual.



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Ms. Delcianna Winders  
FOIA 10-687

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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.

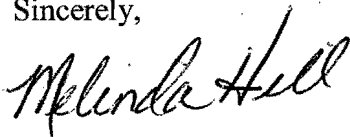
You may appeal our partial denial determination. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be received at the following address within 45 days of the date of this letter. Please send to:

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

Please refer to FOIA 10-687 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 the cost to process your request is less than \$25.00, the fees have been waived. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Tamara M. Wade of my staff at (301) 734-5268.

Sincerely,



*for* Tonya Woods  
Director  
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act  
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosures