

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 September 11, 2019

Frances Chrzan Law Clerk New England Anti-Vivisection Society 333 Washington St., Suite 850 Boston, MA 02108 Email: <u>fchrzan@neavs.org</u>

## SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Re: Final Response to FOIA Request No. 2019-APHIS-03247-F

Dear Frances Chrzan,

This response is in reply to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated April 8, 2019 and received by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on the same date. Your request was assigned FOIA tracking number 2019-APHIS-03247-F. Your FOIA request seeks:

All of the following materials regarding experiments on dogs at White Oak Animal Program (Registration#: 51-F-0025) created between January 1, 2017 and April 8, 2019: All official warnings; settlements; minutes; consent decrees; Column E ("animals used in research; pain involved; no pain drugs administered") exemption justifications; inspection reports, and case files related to those reports, including photos, audio, and/or video footage; applications for registration and renewals; any correspondence appealing a report or advising about a personnel change; records of change of operations, protocol suspension, and uncorrected significant deficiencies from a semiannual inspection; and/or any other electronic surveillance communications.

Upon receipt, your request was forwarded to the Animal Care (AC) and Investigative and Enforcement Services (IES) Program offices to conduct a search of their files for records responsive to your request. IES began a search of their electronic files on April 16, 2019 but did not locate any responsive records. AC began a search of their electronic files on May 15, 2019 but did not locate any responsive records.

This is our final response. If you have any additional questions regarding this matter, you may contact Kiva Williams-Wilson, the analyst who processed your request, at (301) 851-4073 or by email, <u>kiva.williams-wilson@usda.gov</u>. You may also contact Ms. Bethany Jones, our FOIA Public Liaison, at (301) 851-4100 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the

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Obtained by Rise for Animals. Uploaded 08/28/2020

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National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; Telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with the "no records" response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to: Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Ag Box 3401, Washington, DC 20250-3401. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request. Please refer to FOIA 2019-APHIS-03247-F 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.

Sincerely,

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