



VIA: USPS Certified Mail
Shipping Event: 1st

June 22, 2012

Rick Whitford
221 Ed Williams Road
Cut Bank, MT 59427

OFFICIAL WARNING

Re: Reference number OK10021-VS

Dear Sir or Madam:

Why You Are Receiving This Letter

We believe that you violated the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. § 8301 et seq.) (AHPA), as described in the attached Official Warning. Our agency, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is responsible for enforcing the AHPA, and other agriculture laws that help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases, and ensure the welfare of animals.


After providing you with an opportunity for a hearing, we may impose civil penalties of up to \$1,100, or other sanctions, for each violation described in this Official Warning. Although we generally pursue penalties for this type of violation(s), we have decided not to pursue penalties in this instance so long as you comply, in the future, with laws that APHIS enforces.

Consequences Of Continuing Non-Compliance

If you violate laws that APHIS enforces in the future, we may pursue criminal penalties, or we may pursue civil penalties for the violations described in this Official Warning, in addition to any penalties we may pursue for any future violations.

What To Do If You Have Questions

If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning, contact Deirdre Jarvis at (301) 851-2741 or call our main office number at (301) 851-2948.

<p>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE</p>  <p>OFFICIAL WARNING VIOLATION OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS</p>		<p>CASE NUMBER: OK10021-VS</p>
		<p>VIOLATOR: Rick Whitford</p>
		<p>ADDRESS (<i>Street, City, State, ZIP Code</i>): 221 Ed Williams Road Cut Bank, MT 59427</p>
<p>The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about the date(s) listed below, you or your organization committed the following violation(s) of Federal Regulations:</p> <p>Date of Violation: April 24, 2010</p> <p>9 C.F.R. § 78.14 Rodeo Bulls</p> <p>Rick Whitford failed to move rodeo bulls interstate with the required certificates. Rick Whitford moved rodeo bulls interstate from Tupelo, Ok to Cut Bank, MT without the required health certificates.</p>		
<p>The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) created federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the violation(s) described above. Any further violation of these federal regulations may result in the assessment of a civil penalty, criminal prosecution, or other sanctions. If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.</p>		
<p>APHIS OFFICIAL (<i>Name</i>): Robert J. Huttenlocker</p>	<p>OFFICE ADDRESS: 4700 River Road, Unit 85 Riverdale, MD 20737</p>	
<p>APHIS OFFICIAL (<i>Title</i>): Director, Investigative and Enforcement Services</p>	<p>DATE ISSUED: 6/22/2012</p>	<p>TELEPHONE NUMBER: (301) 851-2948</p>