

# Master File

## OPERATION: RANCHO DELICIAS

An Animal Recovery Mission Undercover Investigation



Presented By: Animal Recovery Mission  
March 3, 2016



### Contact Info:

Address: P.O Box 403344

Miami Beach, FL 33140

Phone: 305-494-2225

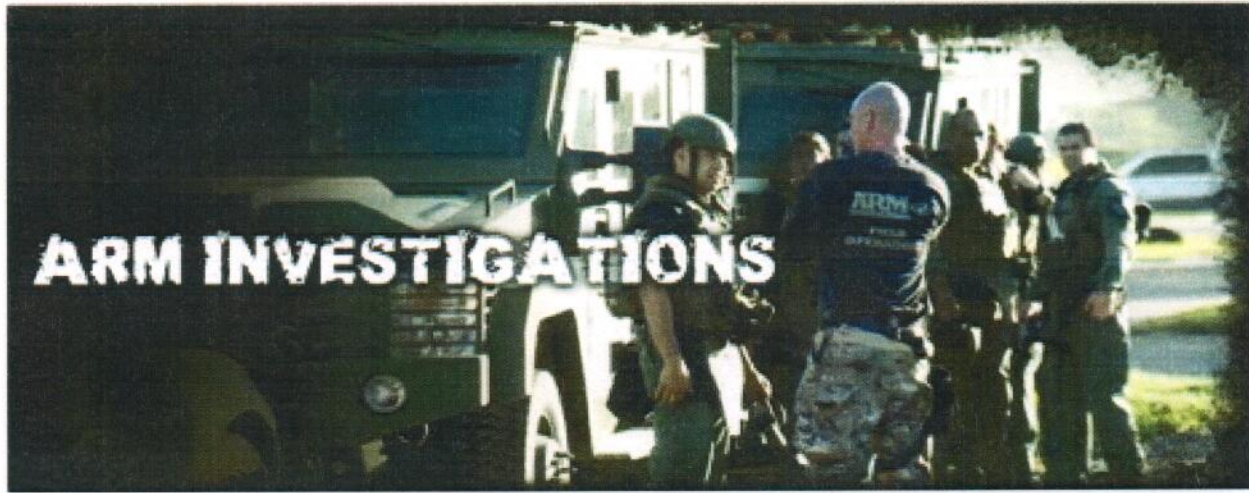
Email: [Kudo@arminvestigations.org](mailto:Kudo@arminvestigations.org)

Web: [www.animalrecoverymission.org](http://www.animalrecoverymission.org)



---

## ANIMAL RECOVERY MISSION



Established in 2010, The Animal Recovery Mission is a non profit investigative organization dedicated to eliminating extreme animal cruelty operations worldwide. ARM stands out as a vanguard and uncompromising defending force for the welfare of animals. In addition, ARM strives to put an end to and preventing pain, suffering and torture inflicted as a result of inhumane practices.

The mission of the organization is to implement direct-action tactics to investigate, document and expose illegal activities of extreme animal cruelty. The organization's primary goals are to improve the quality of life for animals and to educate the public regarding animal cruelty, the practices that contribute to animal cruelty and illegal animal slaughter. Achieving these goals contribute to an increased awareness of the unforeseen ethical, social and environmental implications of animal abuse and produce effective changes in the treatment of defenseless animals.

Animal cruelty investigations taken on by ARM operatives include illegal animal slaughter farms, animal sacrifice operations, illegal horse sales and slaughter, and animal fighting operations. All of which are being conducted on the property explained in detail throughout this report. Since 2010, ARM's undercover investigations have led to the closure of up to 137 illegal animal cruelty operations in the state of Florida.



---

## **2015 ILLEGAL SLAUGHTER FARM RAIDS** **FLORIDA, USA**

### **March 2015- COCO FARM**

The first raid of 2015 was the largest illegal slaughter farm animal seizure in the history of the United States. Coco Farm was located in unincorporated Miami Dade County, Florida and the owner of the farm had claimed to be in operation for over 40 years.

On March 12, 2015, ARM, the Miami Dade County State Attorneys Office and the Miami Dade County Organized Crime Unit, raided the farm and the criminal offenders were immediately arrested. These employees were torturing and illegally killing goats, cows, pigs, and fowl. 10,000 animals were recovered on the day of the raid and rescued by ARM. All structures have since been destroyed and offenders are on house arrest awaiting trial.

### **October 2015- RANCHO GARCIA, G.A PASO FINO, MEDINA FARM**

After investigating undercover in these farms for a 7 month period, ARM assisted in the raid of 3 farms in Palm Beach County, Florida on October 13, 2015. ARM delivered their undercover footage of extremely cruel and illegal animal treatment and slaughter to the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office and Palm Beach County Sheriffs office. A tactical strike force was assembled and the 3 farm raids were successfully executed simultaneously by ARM with the assistance of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department, State Attorneys Office, and Animal Care and Control. Over 750 animals were rescued from the 3 farms and offenders are currently awaiting trial.

### **December 2015- OPERATON GAFFHOOK**

To finish the year strong, ARM's undercover investigations led to the raiding of the fifth illegal animal slaughter farm of 2015. Operation Gaff Hook required ARM to conduct undercover investigations on the farm for 8 months. Brutal killings involving pigs and birds were executed regularly by a boyfriend and girlfriend operating team who were arrested on December 17, 2015. On this day ARM, the Miami Dade Police Department and the Miami Dade State Attorneys Office (Organized Crime Division) raided the property and all of the animals were seized. The couples operation has been shut down and the offenders are on home arrest and awaiting trial.

---



## OFFICIAL REFERENCES

[REDACTED]  
Davie Police Department (Broward County)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Miami Dade County Assistant State Attorney (Organized Crime Unit)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Miami Dade County Assistant State Attorney (Major Crimes Unit)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Miami Dade County Police Department (Agricultural Patrol Unit)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Miami Dade County Police Department (Organized Crime Unit)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Detective Miami Dade County Police Department Ag Patrol Unit  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
St. Johns County, Volusia County, Flagler County, Putnam County Assisted State Attorney  
(Major Crimes Unit)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Palm Beach County Sheriffs Office  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
USDA Chief inspector (Southeast Region)  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Florida Department of Agriculture District 5 Veterinarian Division of Animal Industry  
[REDACTED]

Blocked out in  
on Line Packet



---

## VIOLATIONS

- Building and Zoning
- Neighborhood Compliance
- Environmental
- Agriculture
- Inhumane animal handling
- Inhumane animal slaughter
- inhumane animal transport
- No food/water for animals
- Health Codes/ Food Safety
- Operating business without a license
- Selling animals for fighting purposes
- Selling liquor without a license
- Inhumane packaging of animals for transportation
- Training animals to fight
- Baiting animals
- Operating an illegal restaurant
- Operating an illegal bar
- Operating an illegal petting zoo and pony riding company



---

## OPERATION: RANCHO DELICIAS



Status as of March 3, 2016:

ARM began undercover investigations of a suspected illegal slaughter farm in Lee County, Florida after an anonymous tip was given to investigators regarding a suspicious property located across the street. Throughout ARM's 7 month long investigation, ARM personnel witnessed extremely cruel and inhumane acts taking place upon animals, as well as other illegal criminal activity, occurring regularly on this farm. The farm is incorporated as Las Delicious Ranch and is located at 7161 Eastwood Acres Road, Fort Myers, Florida 33905. The property appraiser folio ID is 10314907.

Short and long range surveillance has been conducted by ARM in order to collect evidence of the brutality and illegal slaughter of animals that is being regularly performed by farm owners and employed operators. Documentation gathered by ARM undercover investigators include video and audio footage of illegal and extremely abusive behavior towards animals including inhumane animal slaughter for human consumption.

The following report includes a detailed overview of ARM's findings to date.

---



---

## **2015-2016 INVESTIGATION**

Over the course of a 7 month period, ARM investigators conducted numerous undercover operations of this farm known as Las Delicious Ranch, and on each occasion, documented audio and video evidence of extremely violent and illegal acts of animal cruelty continuously occurring on site. Captured on ARM's undercover video are a total of 36 felonies involving pigs, sheep, rabbits, chickens and cows.

Although "Las Delicias Ranch" is an incorporated business according to Sunbiz, the conditions in which animals are kept on site and the manner in which animals are slaughtered are both inhumane, extremely cruel and illegal. According to the Lee County property appraiser website, the owner of the property is Roman Hernandez. This may be the legal name for Alex, a Cuban man in his 40's who is the main farm operator, killer, decision maker and butcher. ARM investigators believe that Alex may also be a truck driver judging from the 14 wheeler that is seen present on site during each of ARM's entries. The registered manager of the slaughter farm, according to Sunbiz is listed as Dania Hernandez, which may be the legal name for Ayme, Alex's wife who is a Cuban woman in her late 40's. It is clear to ARM that Ayme is in charge of running day to day operations including taking of customer's orders, bringing customers to choose their animals and handles all of the money.

Advertising for the property includes street side signs, offering public entrance, signs displayed throughout the property, as well as a video on youtube advertising parties, pony rides, and karaoke. Signs advertising the Ranch are seen posted on neighboring properties which infers that they might be accomplices or are associated with this operation. The ranch also has a Cantina located on site where parties are held and customers can purchase food and beverages while awaiting the slaughter of their animals. The Cantina is open Friday and Saturday nights and there is often advertisements for hosted band performances and dates that they will be on site. Karaoke is offered to the public every Sunday from 5PM-7PM, and most children's parties are held on the weekends. The slaughter farm is open to the public 7 days a week 9am to 5pm. Las Delicious Ranch has been in operations since 2010 and yearly revenue provided by SunBiz is \$70,000.

The entrance to the property is located along Eastwood Acres Road where the public can see signs posted directly at the farm's entrance. The long driveway leading to the slaughter area is enclosed by a pasture on the left which typically holds goats and sheep, and a pasture on the right which typically holds ponies. The driveway leads to a cantina on the right which is connected to a home where Alex and Ayme reside. Customers park their cars in front of the cantina or to the left along the grass. Located behind the couple's home, is a barn where registered thoroughbreds

---



---

are kept and seen tightly tied to trees and poles. To the left of the home is the slaughter shelter, pig holding areas, and chicken and fowl holding areas. Animals on site include horses, cattle, pigs, ducks, quail, guinea fowl, doves, pigeons, turkeys, dogs, cats and rabbits. Aside from being slaughtered for the sales of their meat, animals and birds are often sold alive for Santaria and black magic purposes.

On August 27, 2015 at 1:00PM, ARM first entered the ranch, posing as customers looking to purchase animals whose meat would be used for human consumption. They drove straight to the slaughter shelter where they were greeted by an employee. Investigators asked to purchase one pig and two chickens. He led them to the pig holding area and after a pig was chosen, Alex kicked and pulled the pig out of its holding area and into a connected small gated area. The pig was then shoved into weighing machine to determine its weight and sale price. The pig was brought out of the weighing device and Alex shot the pig in the head with a .22 calibre rifle which brought it to its knees. Alex then violently stepped on the pig's head to control its movement and stabbed the pig in the heart area using a foot long blade. He then watched it bleed out for about some time while it continued to convulse and show signs of life. During this time, investigators noticed a fight break out between two chained bait dogs who were confined to a closed in area beside where the pig was dying. Bait dogs are used to train fighting dogs who become stimulated with aggression when one meat bone is thrown into their enclosure and they are forced to fight over it. When the fight was over, some of the dogs began to lick and drink the blood seeping into their area from the dying pig. After a few minutes, Alex dragged the pig through the door connected to the kill shelter and dropped in into a tub of boiling water, quite possibly while still alive. He used a shovel to hold it down while removing the hair off of it's body. The pig was then flipped out of the tub into a connecting industrial device which tumbles the pig in circles to remove its hair. Alex then removed it from the device and onto a table where he began the butchering process. The cost of the pig was \$269.

ARM investigators were then led to the chicken and bird cages by another full-time employee who is a Cuban man named Rey, possibly short for Reynaldo and is in his late 60's. He grabbed 2 chickens and brought them to the slaughter shelter where he dumped them inside a tall plastic barrel. He then picked one up by its head and sliced its throat using a very dull knife, he then threw it back in next to the live one to bleed out. He grabbed the second one and did the same. After allowing them to bleed for some time, he took one out and dumped it in a pot of boiling water in order to soften its skin and feathers. He then brought it over to a de-feathering device to remove all of its feathers. He repeated the same thing to the other chicken. The total for the chickens were \$36. Another employee named Jose was also assisting Alex in the animal handling and killing on this day. The animals purchased were placed into the undercover ARM truck and investigators left the property at 2:30PM.

---



---

On that day, ARM investigators noticed a white Dodge pick up truck with Florida plates, tag # EWE577, which is believed to belong to one of the business owners or employees. There were also several cars that had broken windows and no license plates. Employees were discussing their plans to get them fixed and sold which leads investigators to believe the cars may be stolen.

ARM undercover investigators returned to the property on December 23, 2015 and conducted a two team operation where they again posed as customers. The first team entered the property at 1:30PM and witnessed many other customers awaiting service. The 23rd is the day before Christmas Eve, also known as Noche Buena, a customary latin holiday where pig and horse meat are served at dinner tables. This means that slaughter farms generate a large revenue of profit on this day and require more employees then usual. On this day, ARM investigators saw 9 employees working as animal handlers, killers and butchers.

After arriving on site, undercover investigators approached Ayme and requested to purchase a sheep and a rabbit. She led them to a gated holding area where all of the sheep and goats were kept. After a sheep was chosen, an employee wrangled a rope around its neck and dragged it from it's holding area to the slaughter area while it continued to struggle and resist. Because there was so much business on this day, another goat was being dragged for another customer as well. When the employee reached the slaughter shelter, he tightly tied both of their necks to a pole. First, he shot one of them in the head with a .22 calibre rifle and then began to sever it's throat while the other watched, just inches away. After the sheep bled out for several minutes it was then hooked by it's ankles and lifted upside down. After more blood was drained from it's body, the sheep was then skinned, quite possibly while still alive, and brought to the table for butchering and packaging. Once packaging of the sheep was complete, Investigators follow Alex to get a rabbit and he violently grabs one from its cage located next to the fowl, and brought it to the slaughter shelter. While grabbing the rabbit by its head, an employee then hit the rabbit several times with the butt of a knife, then slashed the rabbit's neck about 5 times. While still alive, he then begins to sever the rabbit's neck deeper and throws it on the ground. After it thrashes for a minute, it was then strung upside down similar to the way of the goats and sheep and was it was skinned.

After the rabbit was butchered and packaged, ARM investigators purchased a pigeon which they said would be used for religious sacrifice. Alex tied the pigeons legs together as tight as he could using a ribbon which actually dug into the birds legs and cut off its circulation. He then threw it in a box for transport. The employees placed the packaged animals in ARM's undercover truck and they left the property at 2:45PM.

---



---

During team one's visit, ARM investigators took notice of the relocation of the dogs from their previously seen location, to an area more hidden towards the back of the property. They also witnessed children on site in clear view of the brutal slaughtering and within open range of the employees loaded firearms. Investigators also noticed that the owners were pumping large amounts of blood and waste from the butcher and slaughter area that was being dumped into holding ponds on site. While ARM investigators awaited their packaged animals in the butcher area, they witnessed employees cutting up and preparing what they believe to be horse meat to either sell raw for public purchase or they may be cooking it on site in their cantina kitchen for private events.

Team two then entered the property at 3:20PM and saw about 20 other customers including children also awaiting service. ARM investigators saw Ayme who was taking orders and handling money and they asked to purchase a pig and a sheep that they would use for human consumption. Ayme showed investigators to the pig holding area where there were about 70 pigs awaiting slaughter. After a pig was chosen, Alex kicked and dragged the pig out of its holding area and into the enclosed weighing and shooting area. After being weighed, Alex then shot the pig in the head and while showing evident signs of life, he stabbed it in the heart area and he watched it bleed out for some time. He then hosed the pig off while it was still convulsing, dragged it inside the shelter and dropped into the tub of boiling water. He held it down with a shovel and used the shovel to remove the hair from the pig's body. It was then flipped over onto the hair removal machine where it tumbled for a minute before being placed on the table for butchering and cleaning.

During team two's visit, ARM investigators were also able to capture footage of 25 more felonies of animal cruelty against pigs, chickens, goats and sheep from kills done for other customers. Because there were so many customers on this day, Alex would bring several pigs into the shooting area at the same time, and would shoot and stab a pig right in front of the others pigs and continued like this the entire time that investigators were inside the of farm. ARM Investigators also witnessed pigs drinking the blood of other pigs.

When ARM undercover investigators asked to purchase a goat or sheep, Ayme led ARM investigators to the goat and sheep holding pen where a sheep was selected. After chasing the sheep, tiring it, and several attempts at wrangling it, an employee finally got a rope tied tightly around the sheep's neck. He did the same thing to 2 other goats which were requested by other awaiting customers. After all goats had ropes around their necks, they were inhumanely dragged to the slaughter area. They were resisting to walk with the employee so he would yank at their necks in order for them to move. He brought them to the slaughter shelter and tied them next to each other on a pole, the same way that team one witnessed. After several minutes of being tied,

---



---

the employee shot one sheep in the head with a .22 calibre rifle and then while still showing signs of life, he took the sheep by its head and began to slice its neck, directly next to the other two live ones. He let it bleed out for some time and then sliced into its neck even more. While it was possibly still alive, he shackled its hind legs, hung it upside down and began to skin it. It was then brought to the butcher table for butchering, cleaning and packaging. He then did the same thing to the other 2 animals.

While waiting for their animals to be packaged, team two also witnessed many deaths of chickens which were purchased for human consumption from other customers. Rey regularly handled most of the chicken killings, however on this day, he did have help from another employee who may have been contracted just for this busy day. After being ordered by a customer, Rey would grab the birds and carry them by their wings upside down to the kill shelter and dump them all into the same tall plastic barrel as investigators witnessed their first visit in August. Rey began to take them out and with the help of the other employee holding the chickens heads against the barrel, Rey would slit their throats one by one and dump them back into the barrel to bleed out next to one another. After all their throats were slit, Rey would take them one by one to the pot of boiling water and then to the de-feathering machine. He repeated this process for each chicken. After ARM made the money transaction with Ayme and the animals were put into their undercover car, investigators left the property around 5:00PM.

ARM's next visit to the property was on January 29, 2016. Two ARM investigators entered the property and were greeted by Alex who took their order for the meat of a cow. They followed Alex behind the barn where some horses and cows were enclosed in a field. Alex grabs a rope and makes several attempts to get it around the cow's neck. After doing so, Alex forcibly pulls the approximately one year old calf by its neck as he makes his way over to the shooting area where pigs are usually shot and stabbed. The cow tries to restrain from the force and slams itself onto the trees and then the sides of the enclosure to resist going inside. An employee assisted in getting the cow inside the enclosure by following closely behind it. Once inside the kill area, Alex tightly ties the cows neck to a pole to control its movement while the employee shoots its in the head with a .22 caliber rifle. Because Alex took part in holding the cow in place while it was shot, he is involved in the inhumane felony kill. The cow falls to the ground and then the employee slowly slices the cows neck with a foot long bade. The cow continues to show signs of life when Rey begins to hose and sweep blood off the cows head and body. Alex also kicks the cow several times which stimulates the the cow to move and show signs of life. The employee beings to shackle and restrain the cow's legs with rope which is illegal to do while the animal is still alive. With every pull of the rope, the cow is stimulated and kicks. During the time it took the cow to die, the dogs were seen licking the cows blood off the ground as it seeped into their enclosure. The employee realizes that the cow is still alive and cuts into its jugular which forces

---



---

the cow to drown in its own blood and the employee beings to skin it alive with the assistance of Alex. The cows death was drawn out to approximately 15 minutes before the cow finally succumbed to its agonizing death. The price of the meat from the cow was \$910.

ARM investigators noticed that 2 dogs were brought back to the enclosure next to the kill area and one of them seemed to be new and very scared. The employees threw a piece of meat from the cow into the enclosure and the dogs instantly became extremely aggressive towards each other, which teaches them to be possessive over food and eventually learn to fight. ARM Investigators also noticed a baby goat closely tied to the dogs enclosure, which brings ARM to believe that baby goats and small animals are possible being used to aggression train and teach the dogs to kill.

After the cow was gutted and packaged for transport, ARM investigators discussed plans for a children's party with Ayme. Ayme told investigators that they throw parties on site for many occasions including wedding receptions, birthdays, and children's parties to which they offer pony rides and petting zoos to accommodate events. Ayme signed an estimate and gave it to undercover investigators for what the cost of throwing children's party on the property would be. Included on the estimate was Ayme's phone number which is 786-352-0184 and because it starts with 786, ARM investigators believe that she may be from Miami Dade County. Several employees have also been seen wearing shirts with logos from companies in Miami Dade County.

Beer and liquor is stored in a hidden refrigerator which is not in the public's view. ARM suspects it is kept hidden because Alex and Ayme have been hit with several code violations for running an illegal Cantina.

Also on this day, ARM Investigators witnessed a man coming from the cantina area carrying what looked like the leg of a horse stripped of its meat. The man threw it into a commercial dumpster located on site. Investigators then went over to the cantina from which he came and they overheard Alex speaking loudly about killing and butchering a pony and the way in which he did it. Judging by Alex's lack of discretion, this leads investigators to believe that horse and pony slaughter is conducted regularly by employees on this ranch. Illegal dumping of horse carcasses around Lee County, may be coming from employees of Las Delicious Ranch.

Please understand the degree of extreme animal cruelty executed daily by employees of this farm. Up to a hundred animals are being subjected to an illegal, inhumane and brutal death each day that this ranch is in operations and it is absolutely vital that these animals be rescued, this operation be terminated and offenders arrested.

---



# COMPANY INFOMATION



## Detail by Entity Name

### Florida Limited Liability Company

LAS DELICIAS RANCH LLC

#### Filing Information

Document Number	L13000139695
FEI/EIN Number	46-3807574
Date Filed	10/03/2013
Effective Date	10/03/2013
State	FL
Status	ACTIVE

#### Principal Address

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

#### Mailing Address

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

#### Registered Agent Name & Address

HERNANDEZ, DANIA  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

#### Authorized Person(s) Detail

##### **Name & Address**

Title MGR

HERNANDEZ, DANIA  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

#### Annual Reports

Report Year	Filed Date
2014	04/30/2014
2015	04/29/2015



## **Document Images**

[04/29/2015 -- ANNUAL REPORT](#)

View image in PDF format

[04/30/2014 -- ANNUAL REPORT](#)

View image in PDF format

[03/2013 -- Florida Limited Liability](#)

View image in PDF format

DOCUMENT# L13000139695

Entity Name: LAS DELICIAS RANCH LLC

Current Principal Place of Business:

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

Current Mailing Address:

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

FEI Number: 46-3807574

Certificate of Status Desired: No

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

HERNANDEZ, DANIA  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905 US

*The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.*

SIGNATURE:

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent

Date

**Authorized Person(s) Detail :**

Title MGR  
Name HERNANDEZ, DANIA  
Address 7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
City-State-Zip: FORT MYERS FL 33905

*I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am a managing member or manager of the limited liability company or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 605, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.*

SIGNATURE: DANIA HERNANDEZ

PRESIDENT

04/29/2015

Electronic Signature of Signing Authorized Person(s) Detail

Date



DOCUMENT# L13000139695

Entity Name: LAS DELICIAS RANCH LLC

Current Principal Place of Business:

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

APR 30, 2014  
Secretary of State  
CC0843382140

Current Mailing Address:

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905

FEI Number: 46-3807574

Certificate of Status Desired: No

Name and Address of Current Registered Agent:

HERNANDEZ, DANIA  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL 33905 US

*The above named entity submits this statement for the purpose of changing its registered office or registered agent, or both, in the State of Florida.*

SIGNATURE:

Electronic Signature of Registered Agent

Date

Authorized Person(s) Detail :

Title MGR  
Name HERNANDEZ, DANIA  
Address 7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
City-State-Zip: FORT MYERS FL 33905

*I hereby certify that the information indicated on this report or supplemental report is true and accurate and that my electronic signature shall have the same legal effect as if made under oath; that I am a managing member or manager of the limited liability company or the receiver or trustee empowered to execute this report as required by Chapter 605, Florida Statutes; and that my name appears above, or on an attachment with all other like empowered.*

SIGNATURE: DANIA HERNANDEZ

OWNER MANAGER

04/30/2014

Electronic Signature of Signing Authorized Person(s) Detail

Date

15

**Electronic Articles of Organization  
For  
Florida Limited Liability Company**

L13000139695  
FILED 8:00 AM  
October 03, 2013  
Sec. Of State  
nculligan

**Article I**

The name of the Limited Liability Company is:

LAS DELICIAS RANCH LLC

**Article II**

The street address of the principal office of the Limited Liability Company is:

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL. 33905

The mailing address of the Limited Liability Company is:

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL. 33905

**Article III**

The purpose for which this Limited Liability Company is organized is:

ANY AND ALL LAWFUL BUSINESS.

**Article IV**

The name and Florida street address of the registered agent is:

DANIA HERNANDEZ  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL. 33905

Having been named as registered agent and to accept service of process for the above stated limited liability company at the place designated in this certificate, I hereby accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity. I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relating to the proper and complete performance of my duties, and I am familiar with and accept the obligations of my position as registered agent.

Registered Agent Signature: DANIA HERNANDEZ



### **Article V**

The name and address of managing members/managers are:

Title: MGR  
DANIA HERNANDEZ  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS, FL. 33905

L13000139695  
FILED 8:00 AM  
October 03, 2013  
Sec. Of State  
nculligan

### **Article VI**

The effective date for this Limited Liability Company shall be:

10/03/2013

Signature of member or an authorized representative of a member

Electronic Signature: DANIA HERNANDEZ

I am the member or authorized representative submitting these Articles of Organization and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in s.817.155, F.S. I understand the requirement to file an annual report between January 1st and May 1st in the calendar year following formation of the LLC and every year thereafter to maintain "active" status.

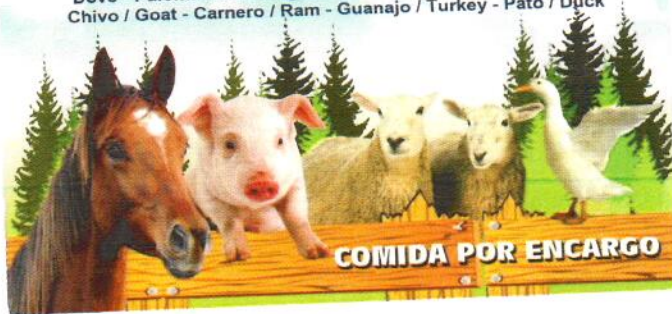


786.352.0184  
7161 Eastwood Acres Rd.

863.244.3127  
Ft Myers, FL 33905



Pollo / Chicken - Gallina / Hen - Gallo / Rooster - Gio Gio / Chicks  
Pollito - Codornis / Quail - Guineo / Guineas - Paloma Blanca /  
Dove - Paloma Color / Pigeon - Conejo / Rabbit - Cerdo / Pig  
Chivo / Goat - Carnero / Ram - Guanajo / Turkey - Pato / Duck



Barbara Acosta

2/20 - 2/27

1 - 7 00 pm.

Salon.

\$ 350.00 = 150

Puerto - 203

Comida

2:30

hrs

✓ Bounce

Ponies

Máquina de Algodón

② Bebida Bar - 2.00

Trapp - 3.00

(786-352-0184)

\* Negocias Bakery

\* Negocias DJ

Yvonne



Quote for Private Party.



# LOCATION







## Property Data

STRAP: 19-44-26-06-00031.0000 Folio ID: 10314907

## Owner Of Record

HERNANDEZ ROMAN  
7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS FL 33905

## Site Address

7161 EASTWOOD ACRES RD  
FORT MYERS FL 33905

## Legal Description

EASTWOOD ACRES UNREC  
OR 596 PG 580  
LOT 31

## Classification / DOR Code

MOBILE HOME / 02

## [ Tax Map Viewer ]



[ Pictometry Aerial Viewer ]

## Image of Structure



&lt; Photo Date September of 2010 &gt;



## Property Values (2015 Tax Roll)

Just	85,298
Assessed	85,298
Portability Applied	0
Assessed	82,645
Taxable	82,645
Cap Difference	2,653

## Exemptions

Homestead / Additional	0 / 0
Widow / Widower	0 / 0
Disability	0
Wholly	0
Senior	0
Agriculture	0

## Attributes

(See Appraisal Details below for current values)

Land Units Of Measure	AC
Units	5.00
Frontage	0
Depth	0
Total Number of Buildings	1
Total Bedrooms / Bathrooms	3 / 2.0
Total Living Area	1,008
1st Year Building on Tax Roll	1980
Historic District	No



## Taxing Authorities



## Sales / Transactions



## Building/Construction Permit Data



## Parcel Numbering History



## Location Information



## Solid Waste (Garbage) Roll Data



## Flood and Storm Information



## Appraisal Details



















































# VETERINARIAN REPORT

# VETERINARY REPORT

Operation "Rancho Delícias" – ARM investigations

Feb 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

## Evaluation of undercover footage: videos presented by ARM.

The AVMA approved euthanasia guidelines state the "importance of the use of humane techniques to induce the most rapid and painless and distress-free death possible" and the "ability to induce loss of consciousness and death with a minimum of pain and distress". These guidelines also clearly mention that "exsanguination can be used to ensure death subsequent to stunning but the animals have to be unconscious and non sensitive to pain, which is clearly not the situation seen in the undercover images at this location."

We have several examples of inappropriate methods of euthanasia performed at this location. All of them are unnecessary, inhumane and increase suffering to the animals. Any method of euthanasia performed with no respect to the approved guidelines is considered illegal.

### Aug 27, 2015

Case #1: 1 pig was stunned and did not instantly lose consciousness and is seen clearly reacting after being stabbed (exsanguination) because he was still sensitive.

Case #2: 1 chicken is seen with incomplete cut of the throat and main vessels and therefore remained alive for a longer (unnecessary) period of time

### Dec 23, 2015

Case #3, 4, 5 and #6: 4 pigs shown separately, being stunned and immediately stabbed without being properly desensitized and showing clear reaction to the penetration of the knife. Which means that the desensitization was not done properly and therefore they were exposed to unnecessary suffering.



**Case #7: 1 Sheep** not completely desensitized and reacting to stabbing.

**Case #8: Rabbit** was strongly hit by the blade of a knife while still alive. Even if done correctly, which is not the case, the technique of applying blunt force trauma to the head is not an approved method of euthanasia for an adult rabbit and the use of it in this case caused unnecessary stress and suffering to the animal.

The AVMA guidelines for euthanasia state: "Manually applied blunt force trauma to the head can be a humane method of euthanasia for neonatal animals with thin craniums if a single sharp blow delivered to the central skull bones with sufficient force can produce immediate depression of the CNS and destruction of brain tissue. When properly performed, loss of consciousness is rapid.

**Case #9: 7 Chickens** are seen at different moments being brought to a holding area, put in a barrel to later be grabbed and have their throats sliced while completely awake. According to guidelines "exsanguination of a conscious bird is an unacceptable method of euthanasia, unless they are fully anesthetized or otherwise unconscious". These birds should have been unconscious thru a correctly done cervical dislocation before being bled.

**Case #10: 1 pig** is seen moving, already bleeding and having acute movement for a very long (abnormal) period of time demonstrating an incorrect process of euthanasia and prolonged suffering.

**Case #11: 1 pig** was stunned without instantly losing consciousness and is seen clearly reacting to being stabbed (exsanguination) because he was still sensitive.

**Case #12: Sheep** is seen being stabbed on the leg to expose the tendon used to hang them for the skinning process, while still sensitive and reacting to it. This is inhumane and should never be performed while the animal is conscious.


**Case #13 and #14: 2 Pigs** in same area showed being stunned and then stabbed. Both had clear reactions to the puncture by the knife showing they were not fully desensitized.

Jan 29, 2016

**Case #15: 1 juvenile cow** is shown being brought to a separate area, secured with a rope that was being hold by an individual and then shot by another at a short distance. The cow falls immediately and the throat is cut. A couple of minutes later handlers start to skin the cow and at that point the animal is clearly responding to stimuli, showing that the cow is being skinned while still sensitive! The ammunition used for this animal was most likely not appropriate to cause immediate unconsciousness and the cow should have never been skinned while still sensitive.

## Conclusion

It is my understanding that these handlers are not using appropriate methods of euthanasia and they are not concerned with animal well being. According to guidelines, a properly placed gunshot has to cause **immediate** insensibility to the animal, decreasing suffering. That is clearly not happening in this situation.

  
**Christina Tomlinson, DVM**  
License# VM11865  
Feb 29th, 2016



# STATE-FEDERAL LAWS & REGULATIONS

# Humane Slaughter Act

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Humane Slaughter Act**, or the Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act, (P.L. 85-765; 7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.) is a United States federal law designed to decrease suffering of livestock during slaughter. It was approved on August 27, 1958.<sup>[1]</sup> Food Safety and Inspection Service inspectors at slaughtering plants are responsible for overseeing compliance, and have the authority to stop slaughter lines and order plant employees to take corrective actions. Although more than 168 million chickens (excluding broilers) and around 9 billion broiler chickens are killed for food in the United States yearly,<sup>[2]</sup> the Humane Slaughter Act specifically mentions only cattle, calves, horses, mules, sheep and swine.<sup>[3]</sup>

Following news reports in early 2002<sup>[citation needed]</sup> alleging significant non-compliance, FSIS assigned additional veterinarians to its district offices specifically to monitor humane slaughter and handling procedures and to report to headquarters on compliance. The 2002 farm bill requests an annual compliance report to Congress, and in the FY 2003 agricultural appropriations act, Congress designated \$5 million of FSIS funding for hiring 50 additional compliance inspectors. Language in the FY 2004 consolidated appropriations act directs FSIS to continue fulfilling that mandate, and the FY2005 budget request calls for another \$5 million to be allocated for enforcement activities. A January 2004 GAO report states that compliance problems persist (GAO-04-247). Earlier concerns about humane treatment of non-ambulatory (downer) cattle at slaughter houses became irrelevant when FSIS issued regulations in January 2004 (69 FR 1892) prohibiting them from being slaughtered and inspected for use as human food.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Contents

- 1 Content of the Humane Slaughter Act
- 2 History of the Humane Slaughter Act
  - 2.1 1958
  - 2.2 1978
  - 2.3 2002
- 3 Criticism of the HMSLA
  - 3.1 Exclusionary policies
- 4 See also
- 5 External links
- 6 Footnotes

## Content of the Humane Slaughter Act

7 U.S.C.A. § 1902. *Humane methods*

*No method of slaughtering or handling in connection with slaughtering shall be deemed to comply with the public policy of the United States unless it is humane. Either of the following two methods of slaughtering and handling are hereby found to be humane:*

*(a) in the case of cattle, calves, horses, mules, sheep, swine, and other livestock, all animals are rendered insensible to pain by a single blow or gunshot or an electrical, chemical or other means that is rapid and effective, before being shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut; or*

*(b) by slaughtering in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Islamic and Jewish faith or any other religious faith that prescribes a method of slaughter whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument and handling in connection with such slaughtering.*

According to the law, animals should be stunned into unconsciousness prior to their slaughter to ensure a death with less suffering than in killing methods used earlier. The most common methods are electrocution and CO2 stunning for swine and captive bolt stunning for cattle, sheep, and goats. Frequent on-site monitoring is necessary, as is the employment of skilled and well-trained personnel. An animal is considered properly stunned when there is no "righting reflex"; that is, the animal must not try to stand up and right itself. Only then can it be considered fully unconscious. It can then proceed down the line, where slaughterhouse workers commence in cutting up its body.

The act contains a broad exemption for all animals slaughtered in accordance with religious law. This generally applies to animals killed for the kosher and Halal meat market. Jewish law (halakha) prescribes that the animal be fully sensible before slaughter, and while stunning is debatable in Islamic law (sharia), the latter too requires that the animal be killed through ritual slaughter and not due to stunning. Proponents of these slaughter methods claim that the severing of the animal's carotid arteries, jugular veins and vagus nerve renders the animal unconscious more effectively than most other methods.



(1) The legislature of this state finds that the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock prevents needless suffering, results in safer and better working conditions for persons engaged in the slaughtering industry, brings about improvement of products and economy in slaughtering operations, and produces other benefits for producers, processors, and consumers which tend to expedite the orderly flow of livestock and their products.

(2) It is therefore declared to be the policy of this state to require that the slaughter of all livestock and the handling of livestock in connection with slaughter shall be carried out only by humane methods and to provide that methods of slaughter shall conform generally to those employed in other states where humane slaughter is required by law and to those authorized by the Federal Humane Slaughter Act of 1958, and regulations thereunder.

(3) Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit, abridge, or in any way hinder the religious freedom of any person or group. Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, in order to protect freedom of religion, ritual slaughter and the handling or other preparation of livestock for ritual slaughter are exempted from the terms of this act. For the purposes of this action the term "ritual slaughter" means slaughter in accordance with s. 828.23(7)(b).

### 828.23. Definitions

Animal Cruelty Resulting in Death.

As used in ss. 828.22 to 828.26, the following words shall have the meaning indicated:

- (1) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- (2) "Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association doing business in this state, in whole or in part.
- (3) "Slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the commercial slaughtering of livestock.
- (4) "Livestock" means cattle, calves, sheep, swine, horses, mules, goats, ostriches, and any other animal which can or may be used in and for the preparation of meat or meat products.
- (5) "Packer" means any person engaged in the business of slaughtering, or of manufacturing or preparing meat or meat products for sale, either by such person or others; or of manufacturing or preparing livestock products for sale by such person or others.
- (6) "Stockyard" means any place, establishment, or facility commonly known as a stockyard, conducted or operated for compensation or profit as a public market, consisting of pens, or other enclosures, and their appurtenances, for the handling, keeping, and holding of livestock for the purpose of sale or shipment.
- (7) "Humane method" means either:
  - (a) A method whereby the animal is rendered insensible to pain by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means that are rapid and effective, before being shackled, hoisted, thrown, cast, or cut; or



(b) A method in accordance with ritual requirements of any religious faith whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anemia of the brain caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries with a sharp instrument.

#### **828.24. Prohibited acts; exemption**

- (1) No slaughterer, packer, or stockyard operator shall shackle, hoist, or otherwise bring livestock into position for slaughter, by any method which shall cause injury or pain.
- (2) No slaughterer, packer, or stockyard operator shall bleed or slaughter any livestock except by a humane method.
- (3) This act shall not apply to any person, firm or corporation slaughtering or processing for sale within the state not more than 20 head of cattle nor more than 35 head of hogs per week.

#### **828.25. Administration; rules and regulations; inspection; fees**

- (1) The department shall administer the provisions of this act. It shall promulgate and may from time to time revise rules and regulations which shall conform substantially to the rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States pursuant to the Federal Humane Slaughter Act of 1958, Pub.L. No. 85-765, 72 Stat. 862, and any amendments thereto; provided, however, that the use of a manually operated hammer, sledge or poleax is declared to be an inhumane method of slaughter within the meaning of this act.
- (2) The department may appoint any member of its staff as an official inspector for the purposes of this act. Such inspector shall have the power to enter the premises of any slaughterer for the purposes of verifying compliance or noncompliance with the provisions of this act.
- (3) As soon as practicable after October 1, 1961, an inspection shall be made of the premises of each slaughterer. Additional inspections shall be made not less frequently than quarterly. No fee shall be charged for such inspection.

#### **828.26. Penalty**

- (1) No slaughterer found by the department in accordance with the above not to be in compliance with the provisions of this act shall sell any meat or meat products to any public agency in the state, or to any institution supported by state, county, or municipal funds. Failure to comply with this provision shall be a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083.
- (2) Upon failure to be in compliance with the provisions of this act after a period of 1 year from the date of the first inspection required under s. 828.25, the department shall direct the slaughterer to cease slaughtering livestock. Failure to comply with this directive shall be a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083, and constituting a separate offense for each day of continued slaughtering operations beyond the first week following mailing of such directive to the slaughterer by the department.



(b) "Owner" includes any owner, custodian, or other person in charge of an animal.

(2) Whoever:

(a) Impounds or confines any animal in any place and fails to supply the animal during such confinement with a sufficient quantity of good and wholesome food and water,

(b) Keeps any animals in any enclosure without wholesome exercise and change of air, or

(c) Abandons to die any animal that is maimed, sick, infirm, or diseased,

is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both imprisonment and a fine.

(3) Any person who is the owner or possessor, or has charge or custody, of any animal who abandons such animal to suffer injury or malnutrition or abandons any animal in a street, road, or public place without providing for the care, sustenance, protection, and shelter of such animal is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$5,000, or by both imprisonment and a fine.

**History.**—ss. 2, 4, ch. 3921, 1889; RS 2510; GS 3396; RGS 5245; CGL 7364; s. 950, ch. 71-136; s. 1, ch. 81-17; s. 3, ch. 82-116; s. 203, ch. 91-224.

#### **828.14 Water and food for stock on trains, vessels, etc.—**

(1) No person or corporation, or agent of either, engaged in transporting livestock on railway trains or on steam or sailing vessels, or otherwise, shall detain such stock for a longer continuous period than 28 hours after the same are so placed without supplying the same with necessary food, water, and attention, or shall permit them to be crowded so as to overlap, crush, wound, or kill each other; and any person or agent as aforesaid violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and any corporation violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.083.

(2) Nothing in this section shall apply to owners, officers, or crew of water craft detained on the navigable waters of the state by storms and prevented by bad weather from reaching port.

**History.**—s. 6, ch. 4971, 1901; GS 3397; RGS 5246; CGL 7365; s. 951, ch. 71-136.

**828.16 Contagious diseases.**—Whoever, being the owner, or having the charge of any animal, knowing the same to have any contagious or infectious disease, or to have been recently exposed thereto, sells, barter, or disposes of such animal without first disclosing to the person to whom the same is sold, bartered, or disposed of, that such animal is so diseased, or has been exposed, as aforesaid, or knowingly permits such animal to run at large, or knowing such animal to be diseased as aforesaid, knowingly allows the same to come into contact with any such animal of another person without his or her knowledge or permission, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

**History.**—s. 9, ch. 4971, 1901; GS 3400; RGS 5249; CGL 7368; s. 952, ch. 71-136; s. 1287, ch. 97-102.

**828.17 Officer to arrest without warrant.**—Any sheriff or any other peace officer of the state, or any police officer of any city or town of the state, shall arrest without warrant any person found violating any of the provisions of ss. 828.08, 828.12, and 828.13-828.16, and the officer making the arrest shall hold the offender until a warrant can be procured, and he or she shall use proper diligence to procure such warrant.

**History.**—s. 15, ch. 4971, 1901; GS 3401; RGS 5250; CGL 7369; s. 1, ch. 28060, 1953; s. 32, ch. 73-334; s. 1288, ch. 97-102; s. 2, ch. 2002-51; s. 6, ch. 2010-117.

#### **828.22 Humane Slaughter Act; humane slaughter and livestock euthanasia; requirements.—**

Sections 828.22-828.26 may be cited as the "Humane Slaughter Act."

(2)(a) The Legislature of this state finds that the use of humane methods in the killing of livestock prevents needless

## insensible

## Dictionary

## Thesaurus

## Word Dynamo

## Quotes

## Reference

## Translator

## Spanish

## Related Searches

Imposing  
Savia  
Prolific

Did you know: Experts use this term to describe a fantasy world invented by children. What is it?

## Nearby Words

insensi'bility  
insensi'tivity  
insensibility  
insensible  
insensible pers...  
insensibly  
insensitive

## Synonyms

imperceptible  
unconscious  
inanimate  
oblivious  
obdurate  
unaware  
gradual  
MORE

## Synonym Game

torpid  
cold  
PLAY



Learn More

## insensible [in-sen-suh-buhl]

[Example Sentences](#) [Origin](#)

## Why Men Pull Away

CatchHimAndKeepHim.com

10 Ugly Mistakes Women Make That Ruins Any Chances Of A Relationship

## Bible Dictionary

www.DailyBibleGuide.com

Search Verses, Daily Bible Quotes, & More with the Free Bible Toolbar

## WorldofWatches.com

WorldofWatches.com

Up To 90% Off On The World's Finest Watches. Secure Ordering, Shop Now!

## Word Dynamo Rating For Insensible

People who can define **insensible** may know 15,089 words, as many as a 6th grader.

How many words do you know?

## in-sen-si-ble [in-sen-suh-buhl]

[Show IPA](#)

## adjective

1. Incapable of feeling or perceiving; deprived of sensation; unconscious, as a person after a violent blow.
2. without or not subject to a particular feeling or sensation: *insensible to shame; insensible to the cold.*
3. unaware; unconscious; inappreciative: *We are not insensible of your kindness.*
4. not perceptible by the senses; imperceptible: *insensible transitions.*
5. unresponsive in feeling.

EXPAND

## Bible Dictionary

www.BibleTriviaTime.com

You Think You Know The Bible Well? Test Yourself With Our Trivia Game

## Origin:

1350-1400; Middle English < Latin *insēnsibilis*. See [in-1](#), [sensible](#)

## Related forms

in-sen-si-bly, *adverb*

in-sen-si-bil-i-ty, *noun*

## Synonyms

5, 6. apathetic, unfeeling, indifferent, cool; dull, passionless, emotionless, torpid.

Dictionary.com Unabridged  
Based on the Random House Dictionary. © Random House, Inc. 2012.  
[Cite This Source](#) | [Link To Insensible](#)

Insensible is a GRE word you need to know.  
So is appropriate. Does it mean:

critic of ideas

to set apart and authorize for some specific purpose; to take for oneself or to take without permission or consent

FAVORITES

RECENT

search dictionary

CAPPELLA UNIVERSITY

Custom financial solutions to match your graduate-level ambitions

LEARN MORE

Remove ads like these Upgrade now!

## Related Words

anesthetize	lost
caseharden	senseless
impassive	shameless
lifeless	steel
lost	MORE

## Matching Quote

"The chief benefit, which results from philosophy, arises in an indirect manner, and proceeds more from its secret, **insensible** influence, than from its immediate application."

-David Hume

MORE





**828.123 Killing dog or cat with intent of selling or giving away pelt; possession, sale, or importation of pelt with intent of selling or giving away; penalty.—**

(1) A person who kills any dog or cat with the sole intent of selling or giving away the pelt of such animal commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by both imprisonment and a fine.

(2) A person who possesses, imports into this state, sells, buys, gives away, or accepts any pelt of a dog or cat with the sole intent of selling or giving away the pelt of the dog or cat commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of \$5,000, or by both imprisonment and a fine.

(3) A person who possesses, imports into the state, sells, buys, gives away, or accepts any dog or cat with the sole intent of killing such dog or cat, or having such dog or cat killed, for the purpose of selling or giving away the pelt of such animal commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by both imprisonment and a fine.

(4) It is unlawful for any person to knowingly engage in the business of a dealer or buyer in the pelts or furs of any dog or cat in the state or to purchase such pelts or furs within the state. No common carrier shall knowingly ship or transport or receive for transportation any dog or cat pelts or furs within the state. Any person who violates this subsection commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

**History.**—s. 1, ch. 2000-194.

**828.1231 Sale of garments or items of clothing containing dog or cat fur prohibited; sale of pelt of any dog or cat prohibited; penalty.—**

(1) It is unlawful for any person to knowingly sell or offer for sale, directly or indirectly, at wholesale or at retail, in this state any garment, or any item of clothing or apparel that is made, in whole or in part, from the fur of any dog or cat, or which contains or to which is attached any dog or cat fur.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to knowingly sell or offer for sale, directly or indirectly, at wholesale or at retail, or to give away, in this state the pelt of any dog or cat.

(3) Any person who violates the provisions of this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. Upon a second or subsequent conviction for a violation of this subsection, the offender commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(4) Any law enforcement agency, or humane officer as defined in s. 828.03, may institute proceedings in the appropriate circuit court to enforce compliance with the provisions of this section. Any law enforcement agency, or humane officer as defined in s. 828.03, may seek a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

**History.**—s. 2, ch. 2000-194; s. 25, ch. 2001-64.

**828.125 Killing or aggravated abuse of horses or cattle; offenses; penalties.—**Any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding:

(1) Any person who willfully and unlawfully, by any means whatsoever, kills, maims, mutilates, or causes great bodily harm or permanent breeding disability to any animal of the genus *Equus* (horse) or any animal of any registered breed or recognized registered hybrid of the genus *Bos* (cattle) commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided by s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, except that any person who commits a violation of this subsection shall be sentenced to a minimum mandatory fine of \$3,500 and a minimum mandatory period of incarceration of 1 year.

(2) Any person who individually attempts or solicits, or jointly agrees, conspires, combines, or confederates with another person to commit, any act prohibited by subsection (1) and does an act in furtherance of said attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy shall be guilty of a felony of the second degree and is punishable as if the person or persons had actually committed such prohibited act as enumerated in subsection (1), notwithstanding any provisions found in s. 777.04.



nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit separate convictions and sentences for a violation of this subsection and any violation of subsection (1).

(3) Any person who verbally or in writing threatens to commit any act prohibited by subsection (1) and has the apparent ability to carry out such threat and places the owner or custodian of said animal in fear that such an act as described in subsection (1) is about to take place shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided by s. 775.082, s. 775.083 or s. 775.084.

(4) In addition to any other fines or penalties authorized by law, a person found guilty of violating any provision of subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (3) may be ordered by the court to make restitution to the aggrieved party in an amount not to exceed twice the gross fair market value of the said *Equus* or *Bos* killed or abused in an aggravated manner, or up to twice the gross loss caused, whichever is greater, plus attorney's fees and any and all related costs. Upon notice the court shall hold a hearing to determine the amount of fines, restitution, or costs to be imposed under this section, if not agreed upon by the parties.

(5) This section shall not be construed to abridge, impede, prohibit, or otherwise interfere in any way with the application, implementation, or conduct of recognized livestock husbandry practices or techniques by or at the direction of the owner of the livestock so husbanded; nor shall any person be held culpable for any act prohibited by this chapter which results from weather conditions or other acts of God, providing that the person is in compliance with recognized livestock husbandry practices.

**History.**—s. 1, ch. 86-14; s. 42, ch. 91-110; s. 28, ch. 99-391; s. 5, ch. 2010-87.

#### **828.126 Sexual activities involving animals.—**

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Sexual conduct" means any touching or fondling by a person, either directly or through clothing, of the sex organs or anus of an animal or any transfer or transmission of semen by the person upon any part of the animal for the purpose of sexual gratification or arousal of the person.

"Sexual contact" means any contact, however slight, between the mouth, sex organ, or anus of a person and the sex organ or anus of an animal, or any penetration, however slight, of any part of the body of the person into the sex organ or anus of an animal, or any penetration of the sex organ or anus of the person into the mouth of the animal, for the purpose of sexual gratification or sexual arousal of the person.

(2) A person may not:

(a) Knowingly engage in any sexual conduct or sexual contact with an animal;

(b) Knowingly cause, aid, or abet another person to engage in any sexual conduct or sexual contact with an animal;

(c) Knowingly permit any sexual conduct or sexual contact with an animal to be conducted on any premises under his or her charge or control; or

(d) Knowingly organize, promote, conduct, advertise, aid, abet, participate in as an observer, or perform any service in the furtherance of an act involving any sexual conduct or sexual contact with an animal for a commercial or recreational purpose.

(3) A person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(4) This section does not apply to accepted animal husbandry practices, conformation judging practices, or accepted veterinary medical practices.

**History.**—s. 1, ch. 2011-42.

#### **828.13 Confinement of animals without sufficient food, water, or exercise; abandonment of animals.—**

As used in this section:

(a) "Abandon" means to forsake an animal entirely or to neglect or refuse to provide or perform the legal obligations for care and support of an animal by its owner.



ENROLLED

CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

for violations involving horses or certain cattle;  
creating s. 828.28, F.S.; requiring local governments to  
provide notice prior to licensing deadlines; encouraging  
local governments to develop online licensing systems;  
providing effective dates.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Ivonne Rodriguez  
and Victoria McCullough Horse Protection Act."

Section 2. Section 474.203, Florida Statutes, is amended  
to read:

474.203 Exemptions.—This chapter does ~~shall~~ not apply to:

(1) Any faculty member practicing only in conjunction with  
teaching duties at a school or college of veterinary medicine  
located in this state and accredited by the American Veterinary  
Medical Association Council on Education. However, this  
exemption applies ~~shall~~ only ~~apply~~ to such a faculty member who  
does not hold a valid license issued under this chapter, but who  
is a graduate of a school or college of veterinary medicine  
accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association  
Council on Education or a school or college recognized by the  
American Veterinary Medical Association Commission for Foreign  
Veterinary Graduates. The faculty member exemption ~~shall~~  
automatically expires ~~expire~~ when such school or college  
terminates the faculty member from such teaching duties. On  
December 31 of each year, such school or college shall provide  
the board with a written list of all faculty who are exempt from

## ENROLLED

CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

57 | this chapter. Such school or college shall also notify the board  
58 | in writing of any additions or deletions to such list.

59 |       (2) A person practicing as an intern or resident  
60 | veterinarian who does not hold a valid license issued under this  
61 | chapter and who is a graduate in training at a school or college  
62 | of veterinary medicine located in this state and accredited by  
63 | the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education  
64 | or a school or college recognized by the American Veterinary  
65 | Medical Association Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates.  
66 | Such intern or resident must be a graduate of a school or  
67 | college of veterinary medicine accredited by the American  
68 | Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education. This  
69 | exemption expires when such intern or resident completes or is  
70 | terminated from such training. Each school or college at which  
71 | such intern or resident is in training shall, on July 1 of each  
72 | year, provide the board with a written list of all such interns  
73 | or residents designated for this exemption, and the school or  
74 | college shall also notify the board of any additions or  
75 | deletions to the list.

76 |       (3) A student in a school or college of veterinary  
77 | medicine while in the performance of duties assigned by her or  
78 | his instructor or when working as a preceptor under the  
79 | immediate supervision of a licensee, if ~~provided that~~ such  
80 | preceptorship is required for graduation from an accredited  
81 | school or college of veterinary medicine. The licensed  
82 | veterinarian is ~~shall be~~ responsible for all acts performed by a  
83 | preceptor under her or his supervision.

84 |       (4) Any doctor of veterinary medicine in the employ of a



ENROLLED  
CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

85 state agency or the United States Government while actually  
86 engaged in the performance of her or his official duties;  
87 however, this exemption does ~~shall~~ not apply to such person when  
88 the person is not engaged in carrying out her or his official  
89 duties or is not working at the installations for which her or  
90 his services were engaged.

91 (5) (a) Any person, or the person's regular employee,  
92 administering to the ills or injuries of her or his own animals,  
93 including, but not limited to, castration, spaying, and  
94 dehorning of herd animals, unless title has been transferred or  
95 employment provided for the purpose of circumventing this law.  
96 This exemption does ~~shall~~ not apply to unlicensed ~~out-of-state~~  
97 veterinarians practicing temporarily in the state. However, only  
98 a veterinarian may immunize or treat an animal for diseases that  
99 ~~which~~ are communicable to humans and that ~~which~~ are of public  
100 health significance.

101 (b) A person hired on a part-time or temporary basis, or  
102 as an independent contractor, by an owner to assist with herd  
103 management and animal husbandry tasks for herd and flock  
104 animals, including castration, dehorning, parasite control, and  
105 debeaking, or a person hired on a part-time or temporary basis,  
106 or as an independent contractor, by an owner to provide farriery  
107 and manual hand floating of teeth on equines. This exemption  
108 does not apply to any person who has been convicted of a  
109 violation of chapter 828 that relates to animal cruelty or a  
110 similar offense in another jurisdiction.

111 (6) State agencies, accredited schools, institutions,  
112 foundations, business corporations or associations, physicians

Page 4 of 10

CODING: Words

are deletions; words underlined are additions.

hb0765-03-er

ENROLLED

CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

113 licensed to practice medicine and surgery in all its branches,  
114 graduate doctors of veterinary medicine, or persons under the  
115 direct supervision thereof, which or who conduct experiments and  
116 scientific research on animals in the development of  
117 pharmaceuticals, biologicals, serums, or methods of treatment,  
118 or techniques for the diagnosis or treatment of human ailments,  
119 or when engaged in the study and development of methods and  
120 techniques directly or indirectly applicable to the problems of  
121 the practice of veterinary medicine.

122       (7) Any veterinary aide, nurse, laboratory technician,  
123 preceptor, or other employee of a licensed veterinarian who  
124 administers medication or who renders auxiliary or supporting  
125 assistance under the responsible supervision of a licensed  
126 veterinarian, including those tasks identified by rule of the  
127 board requiring immediate supervision. However, the licensed  
128 veterinarian is ~~shall be~~ responsible for all such acts performed  
129 under this subsection by persons under her or his supervision.

130       (8) A veterinarian, licensed by and actively practicing  
131 veterinary medicine in another state, who is board certified in  
132 a specialty recognized by the board and who responds to a  
133 request of a veterinarian licensed in this state to assist with  
134 the treatment on a specific case of a specific animal or with  
135 the treatment on a specific case of the animals of a single  
136 owner, as long as the veterinarian licensed in this state  
137 requests the other veterinarian's presence. A veterinarian who  
138 practices under this subsection is not eligible to apply for a  
139 premises permit under s. 474.215.



ENROLLED

CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

For the purposes of chapters 465 and 893, persons exempt pursuant to subsection (1), subsection (2), or subsection (4) are deemed to be duly licensed practitioners authorized by the laws of this state to prescribe drugs or medicinal supplies.

Section 3. Effective October 1, 2010, section 500.451, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

500.451 Horse meat; offenses sale for human consumption.—

(1) It is unlawful for any person to:

(a) Sell in the markets of this state horse meat for human consumption unless the horse meat is clearly stamped, marked, and described as horse meat for human consumption.

(b) Knowingly transport, distribute, sell, purchase, or possess horsemeat for human consumption that is not clearly stamped, marked, and described as horsemeat for human consumption or horsemeat that is not acquired from a licensed slaughterhouse.

(2) A person that violates this section commits ~~is guilty of a felony misdemeanor~~ of the third ~~second~~ degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, ~~or~~ s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, except that any person who commits a violation of this section shall be sentenced to a minimum mandatory fine of \$3,500 and a minimum mandatory period of incarceration of 1 year.

(3) In addition to any penalties provided in subsection (2), any license of any restaurant, store, or other business may be suspended as provided in the applicable licensing law upon conviction of an owner or employee of that business for a violation of this section in connection with that business.

ENROLLED

CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

Section 4. Subsections (2) and (3) and paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 828.073, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

828.073 Animals found in distress; when agent may take charge; hearing; disposition; sale.—

(2) Any law enforcement officer or any agent of any county or of any society or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals appointed under the provisions of s. 828.03 may:

(a) Lawfully take custody of any animal found neglected or cruelly treated by removing the animal from its present location, or

(b) Order the owner of any animal found neglected or cruelly treated to provide certain care to the animal at the owner's expense without removal of the animal from its present location,

and shall file a ~~forthwith~~ petition seeking relief under this section in the county court judge of the county in which ~~wherein~~ the animal is found within 10 days after the animal is seized or an order to provide care is issued. The court shall schedule and commence ~~for a hearing on the petition, to be set~~ within 30 days after the petition is filed ~~date of seizure of the animal or issuance of the order to provide care and held not more than 15 days after the setting of such date,~~ to determine whether the owner, if known, is able to provide adequately for the animal and is fit to have custody of the animal. The hearing shall be concluded and the court order entered thereon within 60 days after the date the hearing is commenced. The timeframes set



ENROLLED  
CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

196 forth in this subsection are not jurisdictional. However, if a  
197 failure to meet such timeframes is attributable to the officer  
198 or agent, the owner is not required to pay the officer or agent  
199 for care of the animal during any period of delay caused by the  
200 officer or agent. A ~~no~~ fee may not ~~shall~~ be charged for the  
201 filing of the petition. This subsection does not ~~Nothing herein~~  
202 ~~is intended to~~ require court action for the taking into custody  
203 and making proper disposition of stray or abandoned animals as  
204 lawfully performed by animal control agents.

205 (3) The officer or agent of any county or of any society  
206 or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals taking  
207 charge of any animal pursuant to the provisions of this section  
208 shall have written notice served, at least 3 5 days before ~~prior~~  
209 ~~to the hearing~~ scheduled under ~~set forth in~~ subsection (2), upon  
210 the owner of the animal, if he or she is known and is residing  
211 in the county where the animal was taken, in conformance with  
212 the provisions of chapter 48 relating to service of process. The  
213 sheriff of the county shall not charge a fee for service of such  
214 notice. ~~If the owner of the animal is known but is residing~~  
215 ~~outside of the county wherein the animal was taken, notice of~~  
216 ~~the hearing shall be by publication in conformance with the~~  
217 ~~provisions of chapter 49.~~

218 (4)

219 (c) Upon the court's judgment that the owner of the animal  
220 is unable or unfit to adequately provide for the animal:

221 1. The court may: ~~shall~~

222 a. Order that the animal ~~to~~ be sold by the sheriff at  
223 public auction, ~~and shall provide in its order that the current~~

ENROLLED  
CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

224 owner ~~shall~~ have no further custody of the animal, and that any  
225 animal not bid upon ~~shall~~ be remanded to the custody of the  
226 Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Humane  
227 Society, the county, or any agency or person the judge deems  
228 appropriate, to be disposed of as the agency or person sees fit;  
229 or

230 b.2. ~~The court may Order that the animal be destroyed or~~  
231 ~~remanded directly to the custody of the Society for the~~  
232 ~~Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Humane Society, the~~  
233 ~~county, or any agency or person the judge deems appropriate, to~~  
234 ~~be disposed of as the agency or person sees fit, upon the~~  
235 ~~testimony of the agent who took custody of the animal, or upon~~  
236 ~~the testimony of other qualified witnesses, that the animal~~  
237 ~~requires destruction or other disposition for humanitarian~~  
238 ~~reasons or is of no commercial value.~~

239 2.3. ~~The court,~~ upon proof of costs incurred by the  
240 officer or agent ~~or officer, the court~~ may require that the  
241 owner pay for the care of the animal while in the custody of the  
242 officer or agent ~~or officer~~. A separate hearing may be held.

243 3.4. The court may order that other animals that are in  
244 the custody of the owner and that were not seized by the officer  
245 or agent be turned over to the officer or agent, if the court  
246 determines that the owner is unable or unfit to adequately  
247 provide for the animals. The court may enjoin the owner's  
248 further possession or custody of other animals.

249 Section 5. Effective October 1, 2010, section (1) of  
250 section 828.125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

251 828.125 Killing or aggravated abuse of ~~registered breed~~



ENROLLED

CS/HB 765, Engrossed 1

2010 Legislature

horses or cattle; offenses; penalties.--Any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary notwithstanding:

(1) Any person who willfully and unlawfully, by any means whatsoever, kills, maims, mutilates, or causes great bodily harm or permanent breeding disability to any animal of the genus Equus (horse) or any animal of any registered breed or recognized registered hybrid of the genus Equus (horse) or genus Bos (cattle) commits, ~~or any recognized registered hybrid of the specified genera, shall be guilty of~~ a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided by s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, except that any person who commits a violation of this subsection shall be sentenced to a minimum mandatory fine of \$3,500 and a minimum mandatory period of incarceration of 1 year.

Section 6. Section 828.28, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

828.28 Local animal licensing ordinances; notices.--

(1) Any county or municipality that has a licensing requirement for dogs must provide notice to dog owners at least 45 days prior to any licensure renewal deadline. The notice must contain information describing the licensing requirements and any associated penalties.

(2) Counties and municipalities with licensing requirements are encouraged to develop online licensing systems to provide a convenient and cost-effective licensing process.

Section 7. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

# INHUMANE ACTIVITIES/HANDLING

















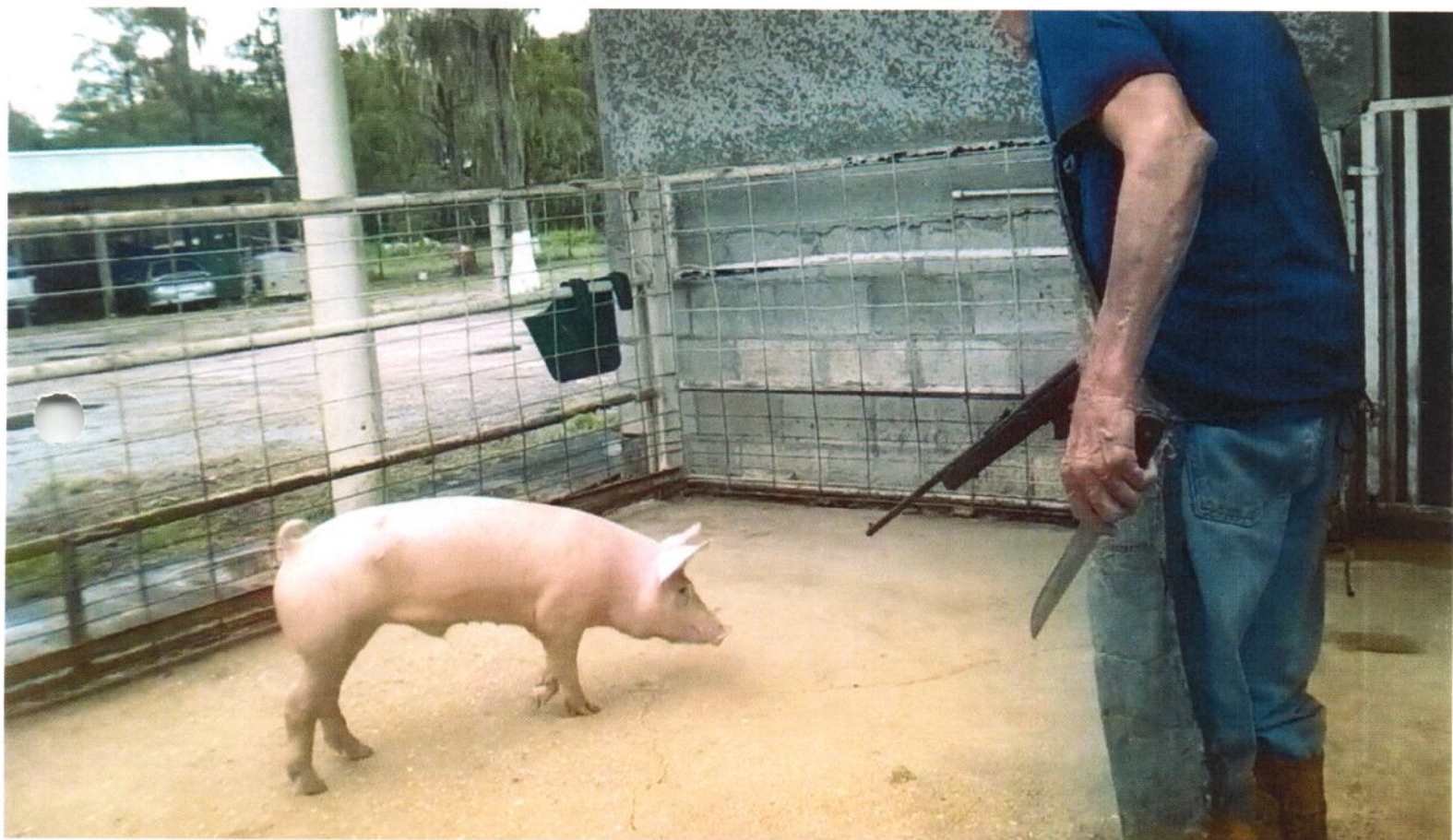






















2011







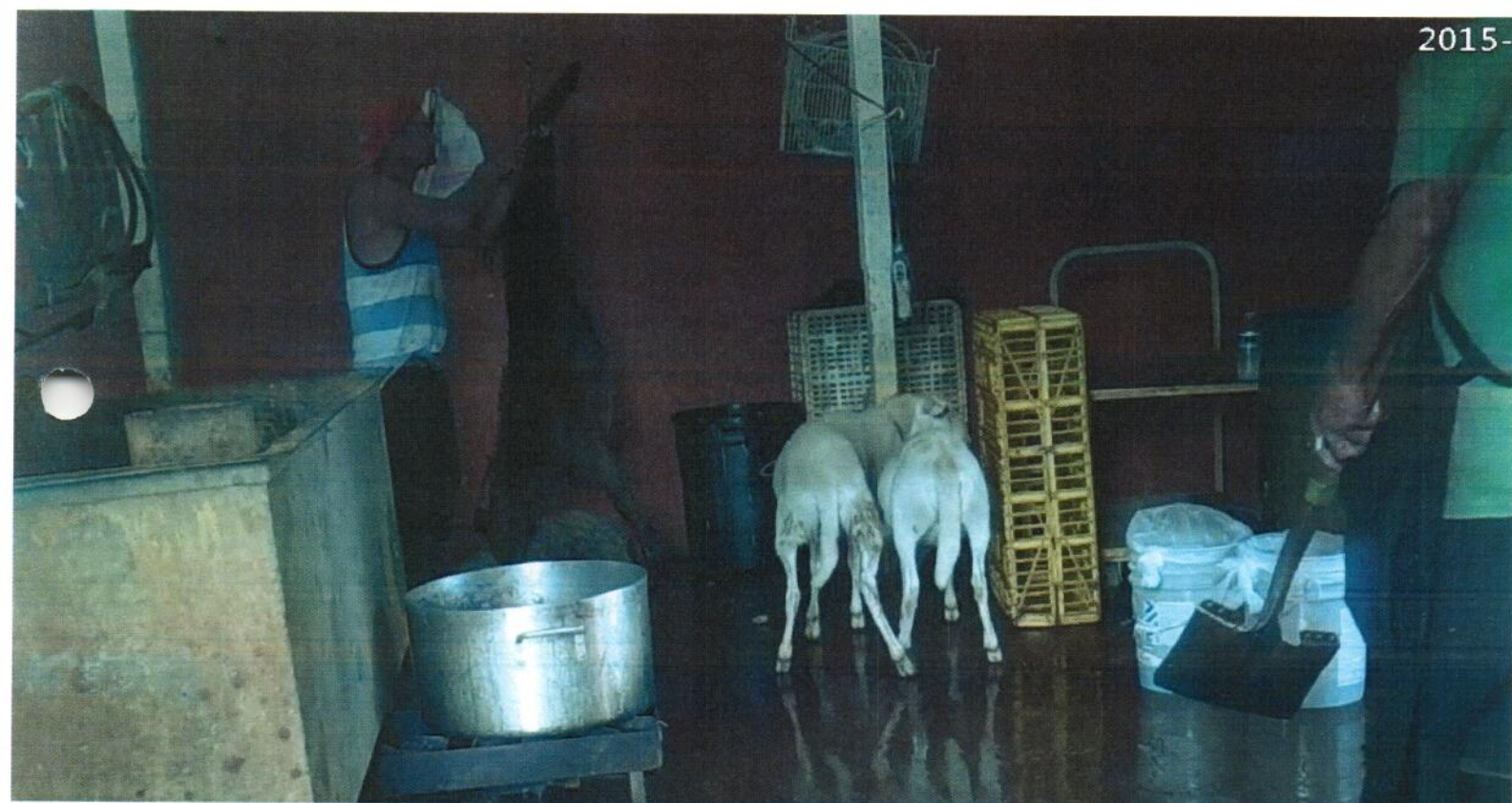








2015-















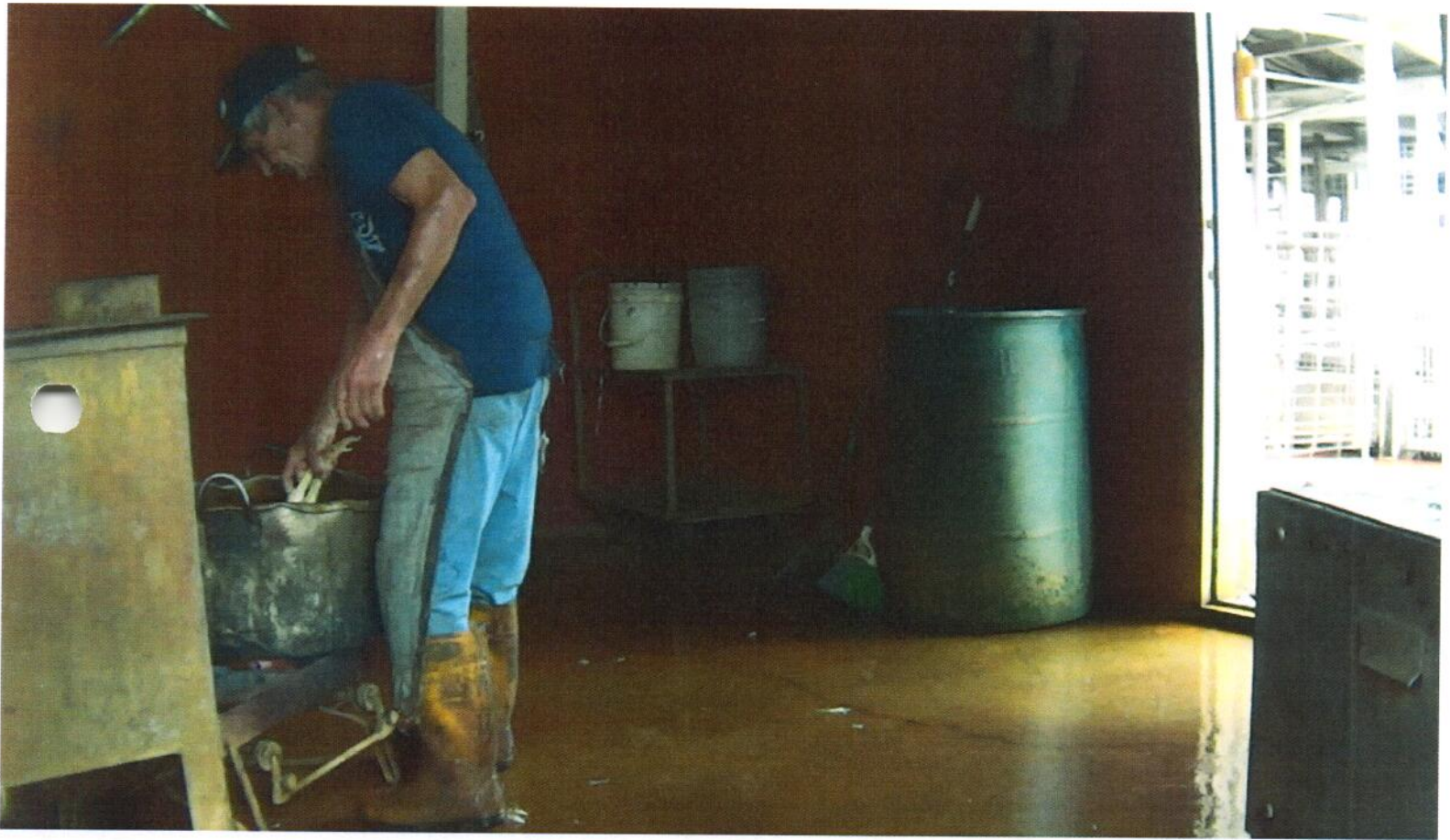


















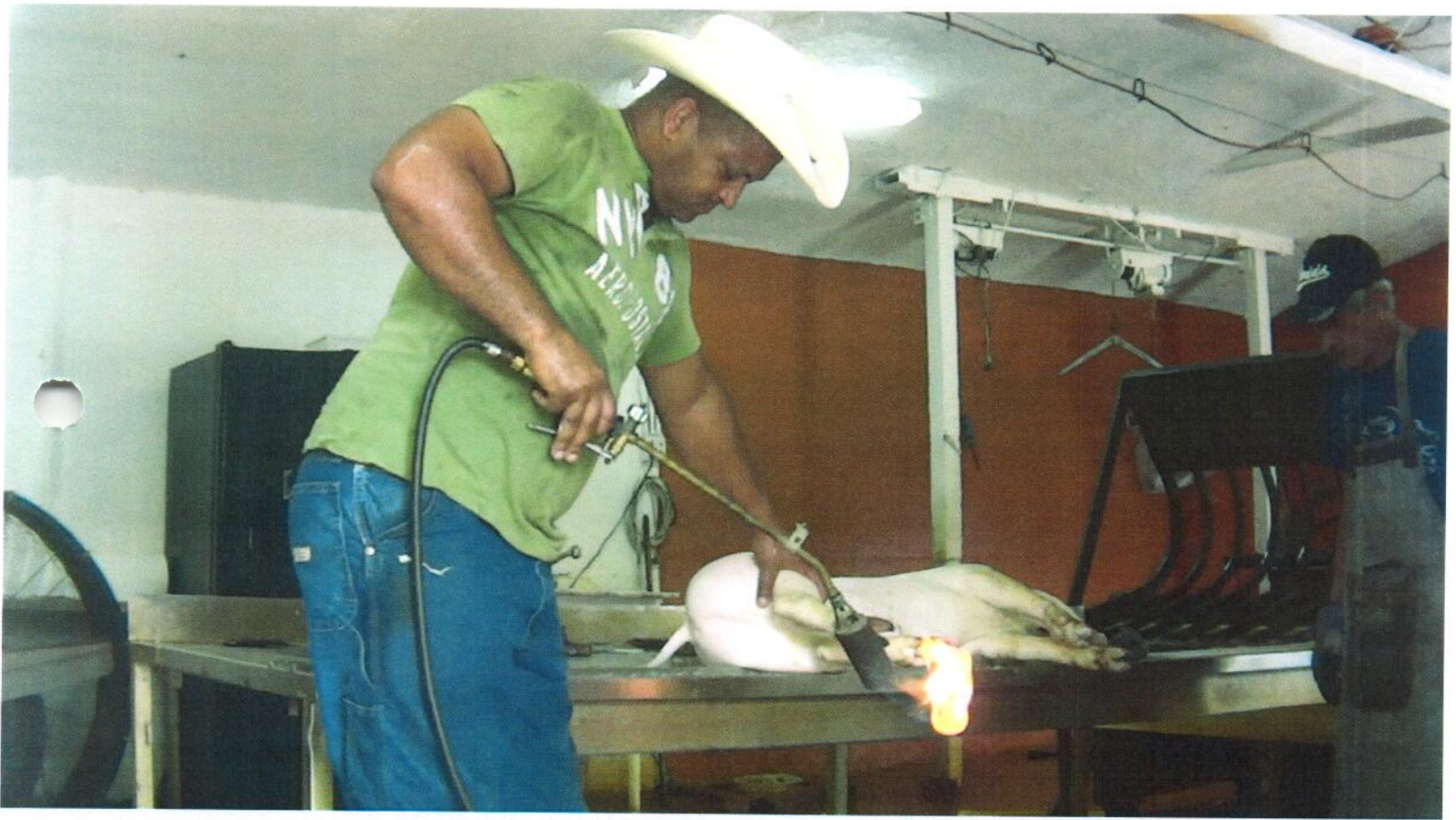














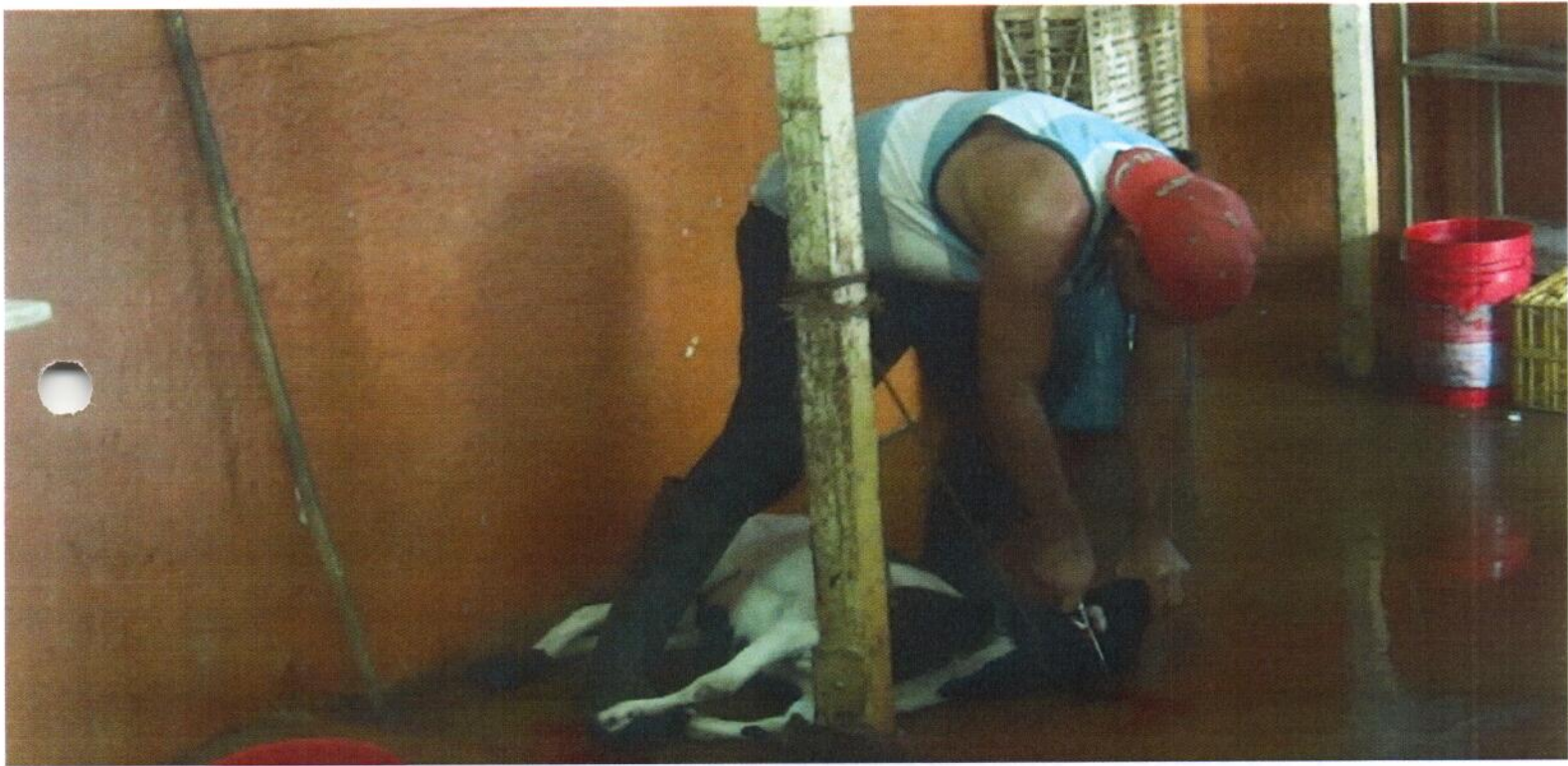




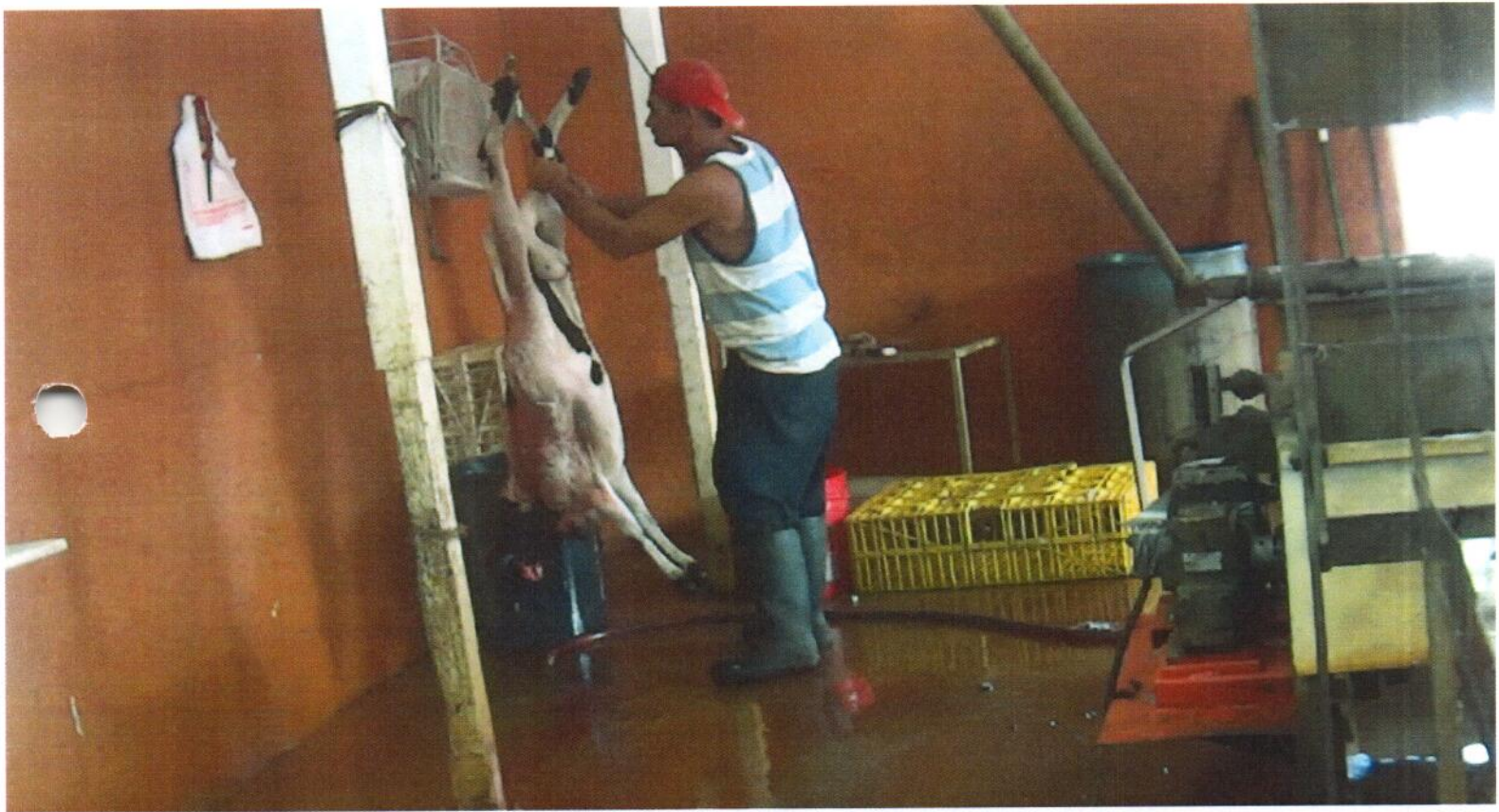


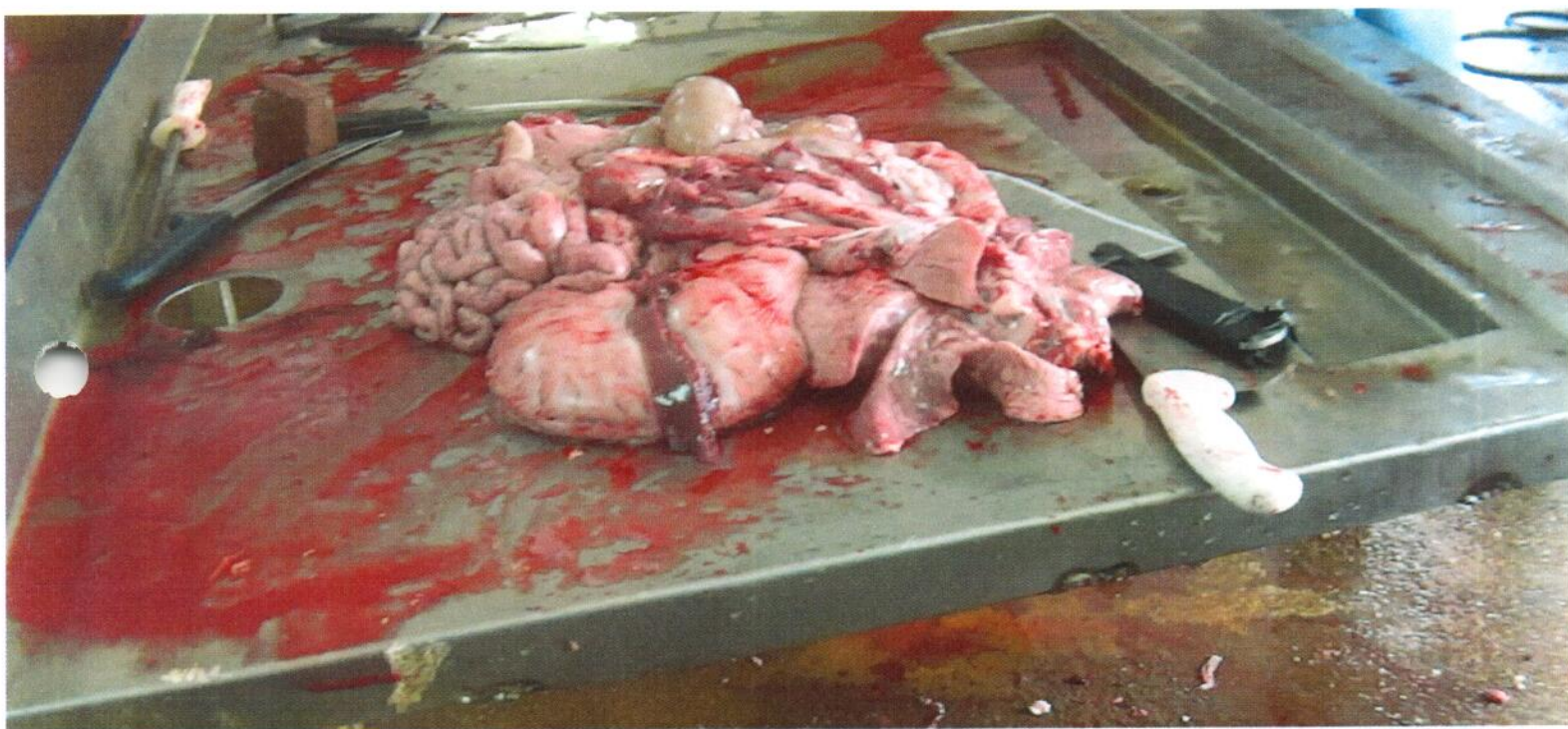






























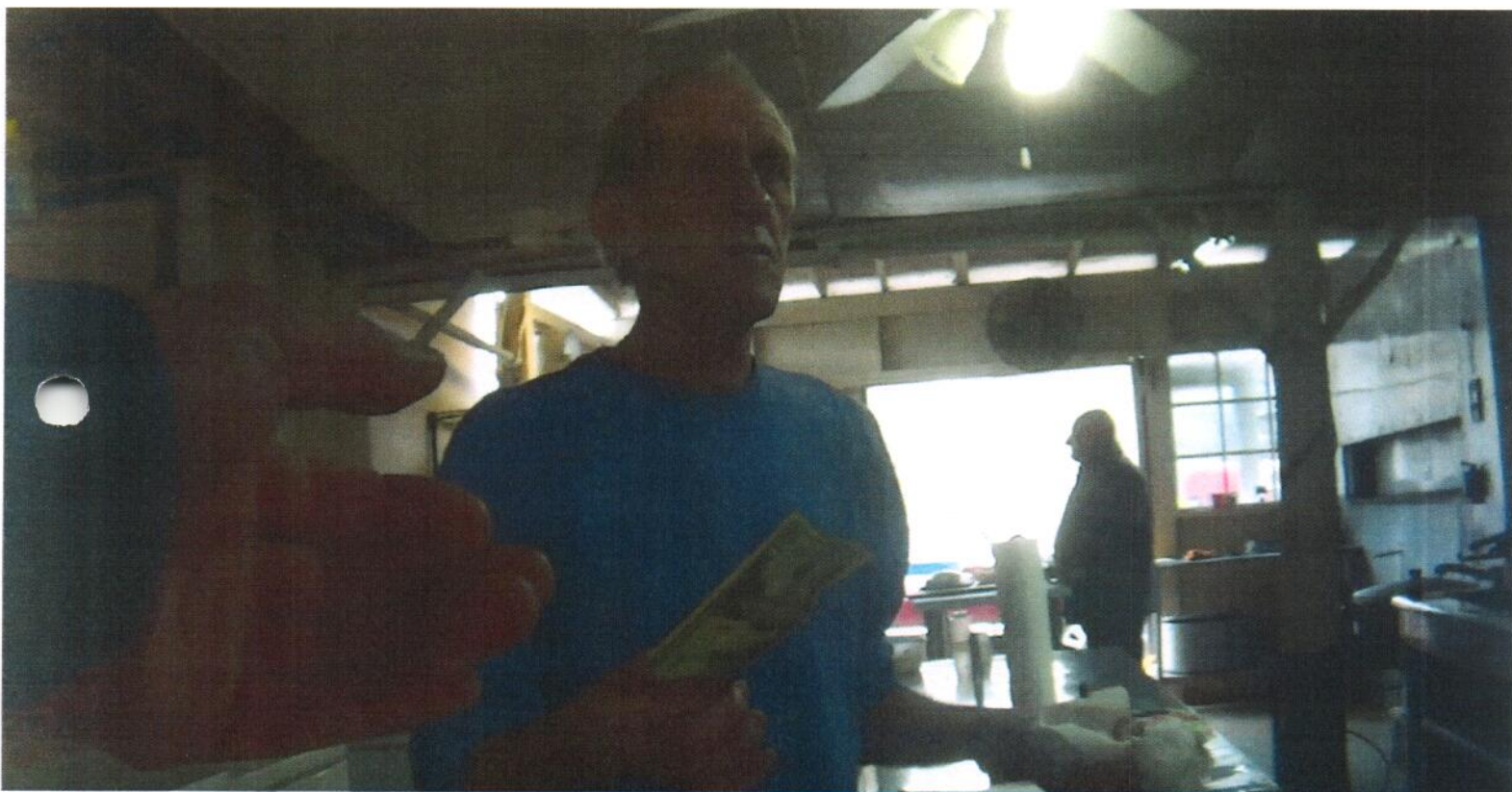






















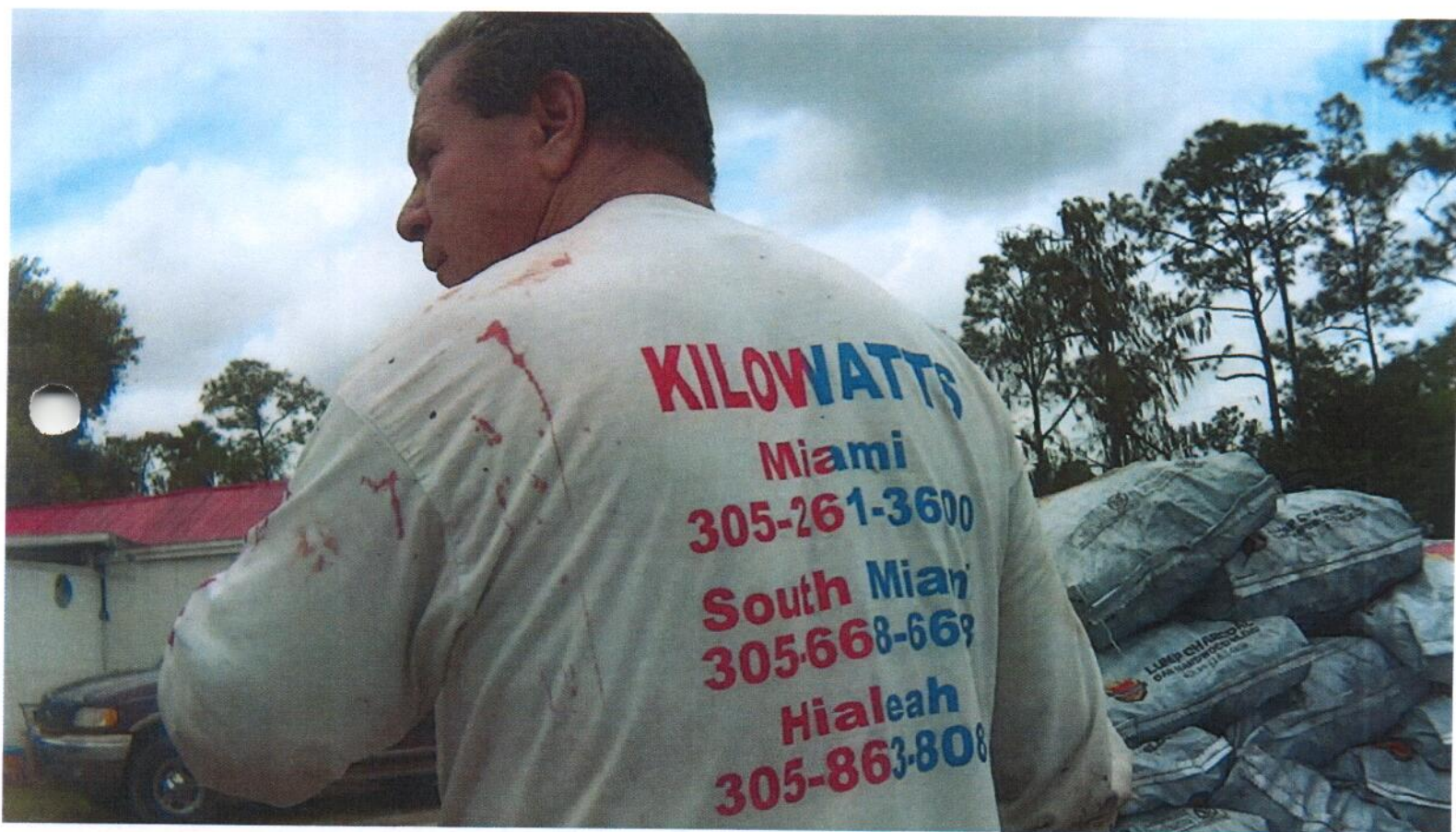
# EMPLOYEES



























2013-01-01

































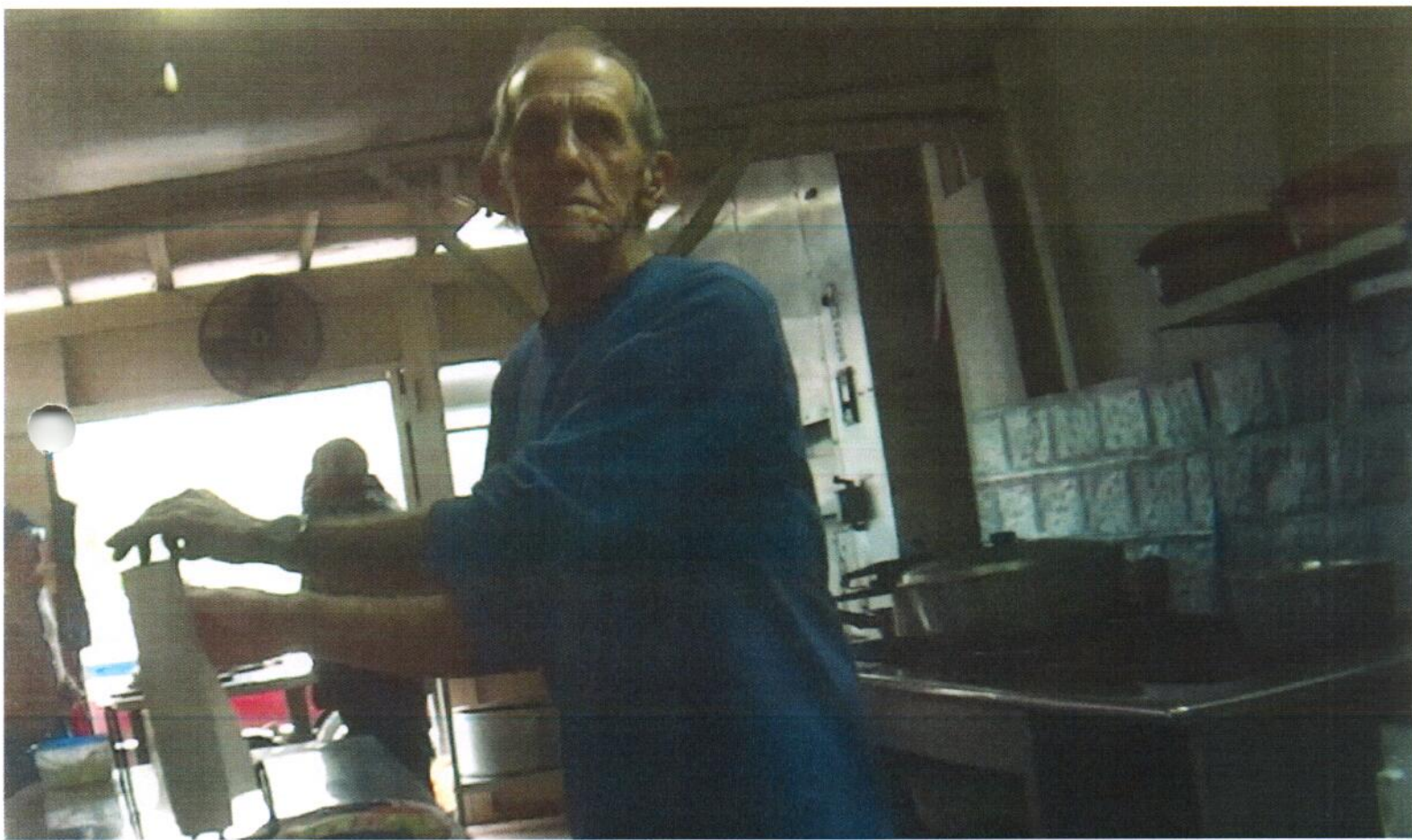


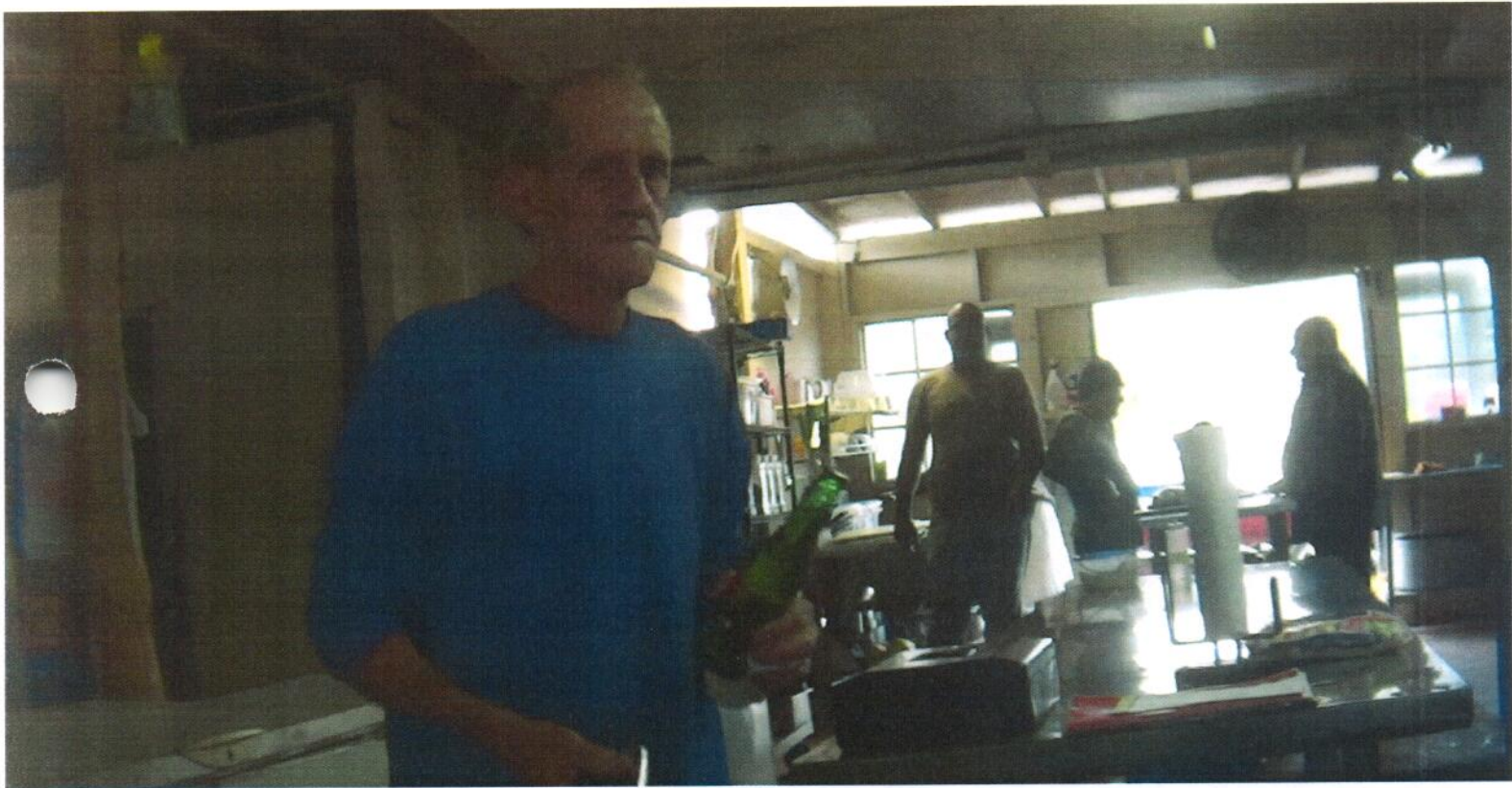




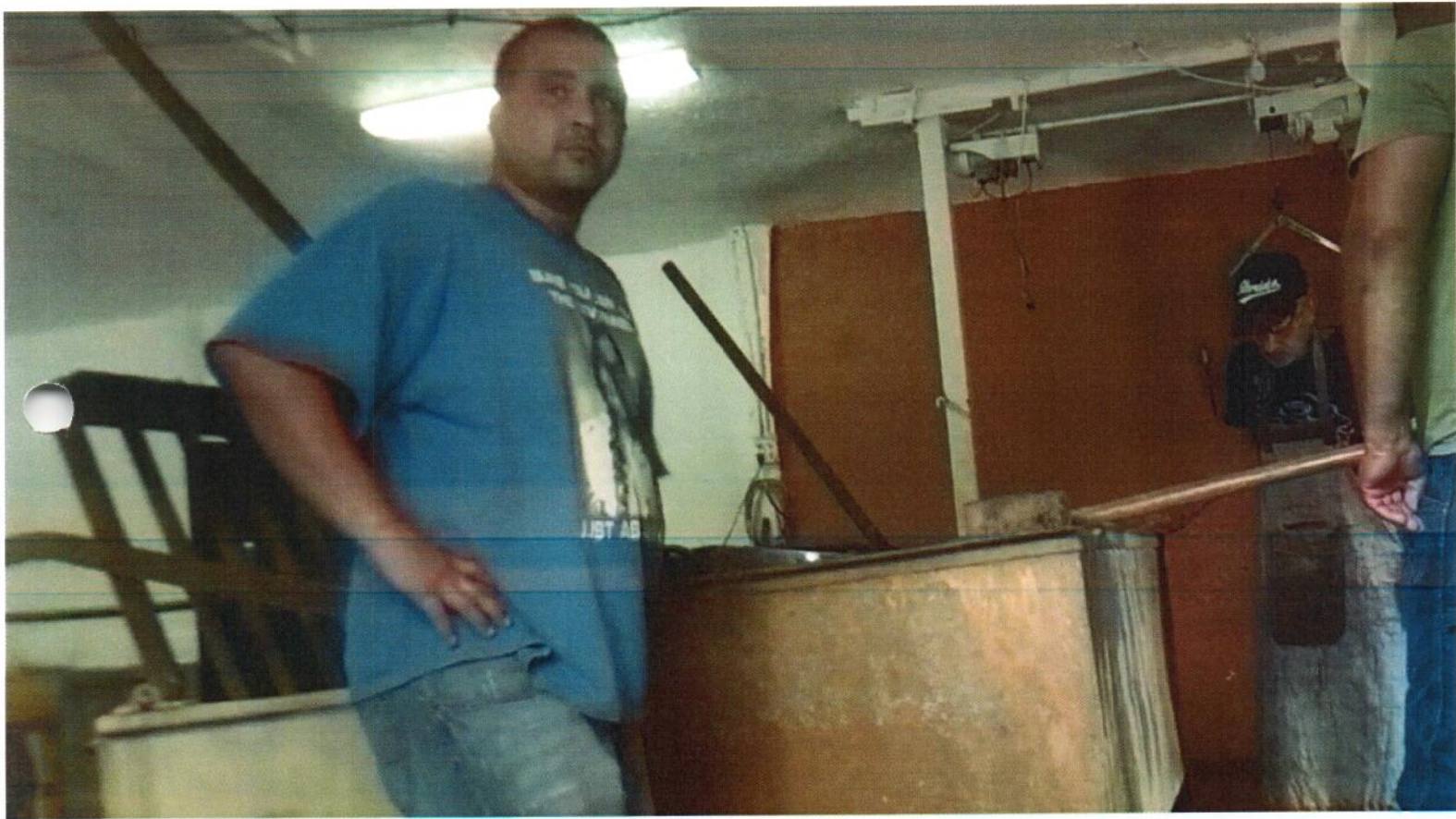


















# CUSTOMERS

















































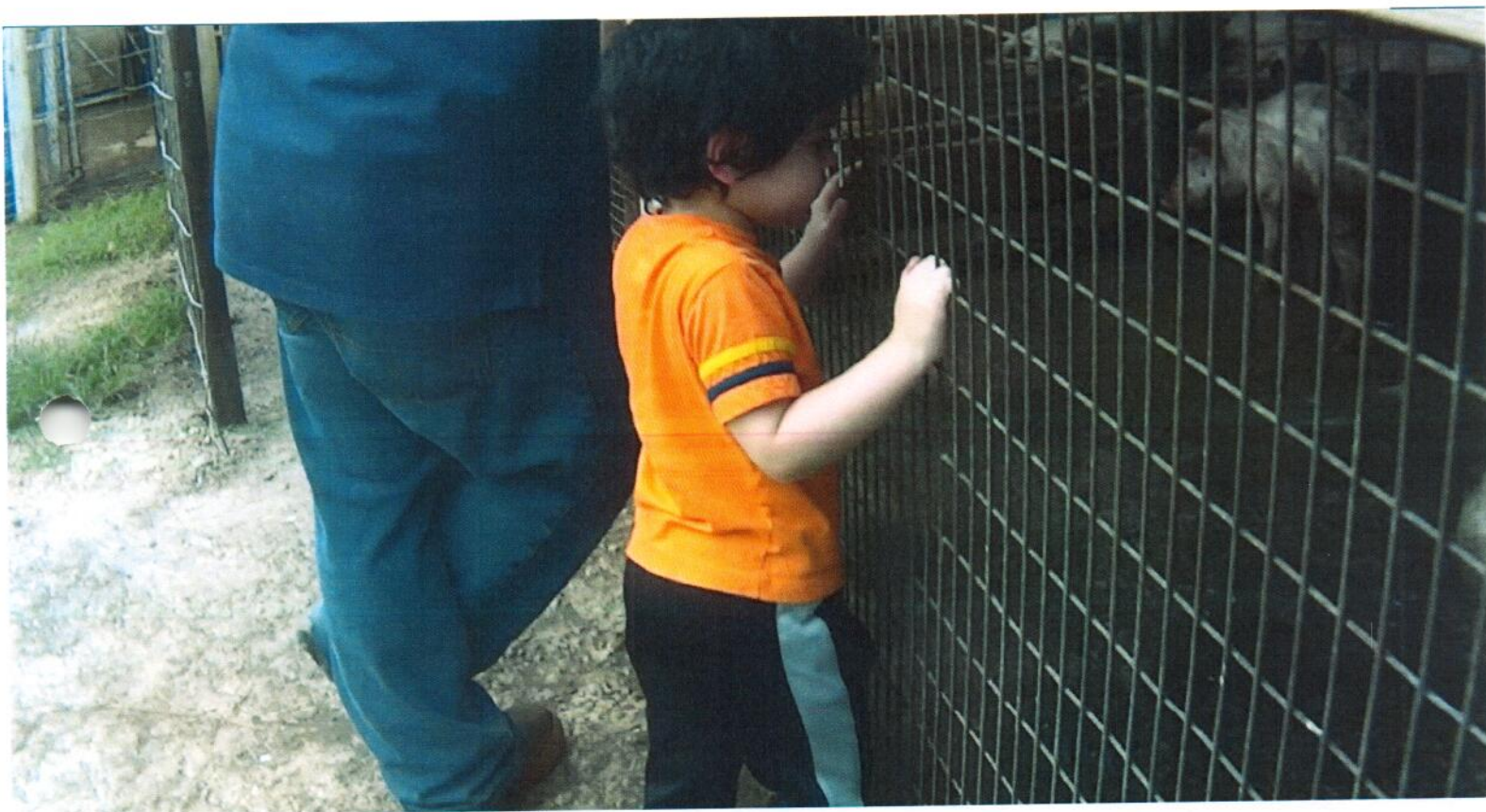




























































# MISCELLANEOUS



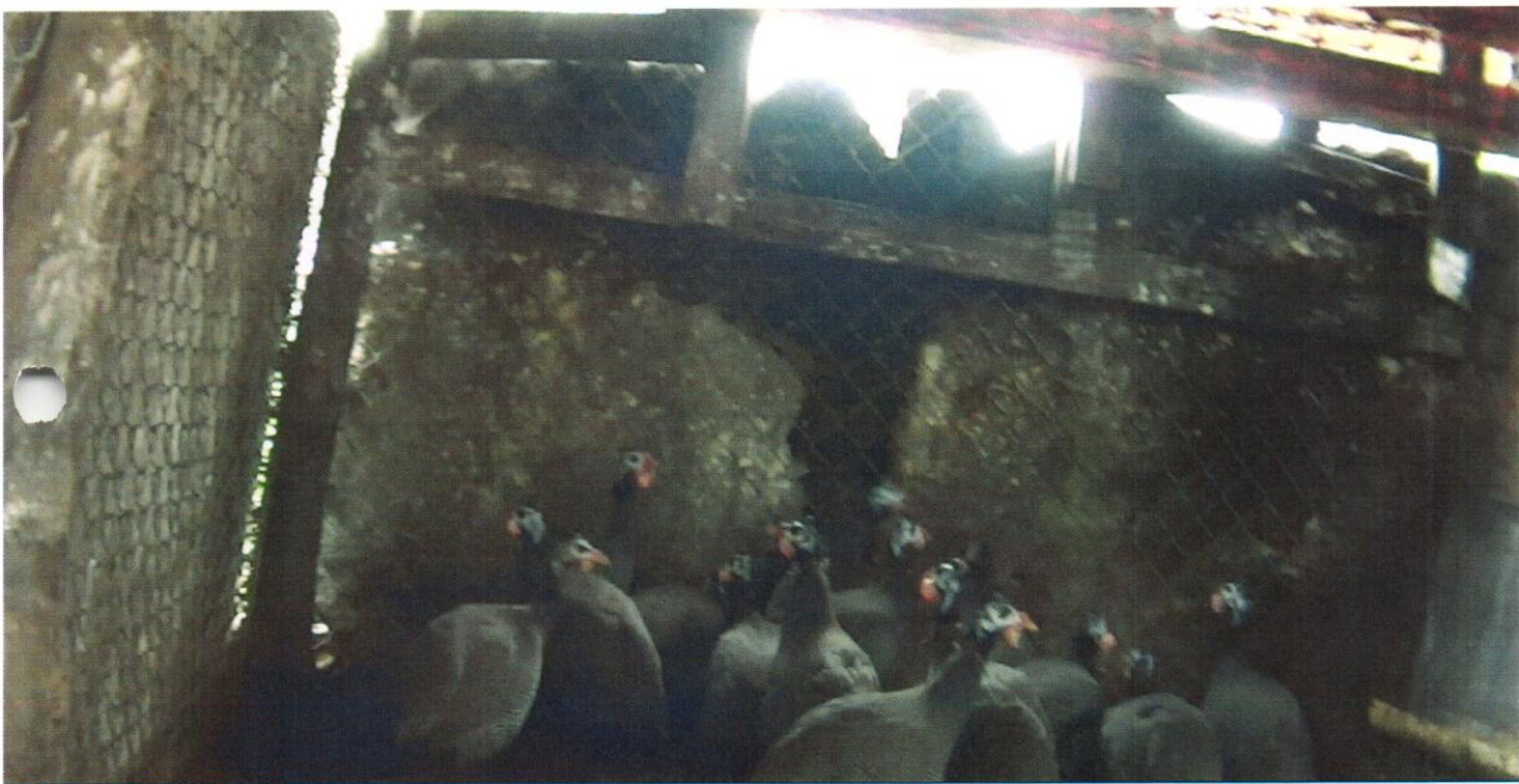








































# Similar case: Operation Gaffney miami Dade ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This affidavit is based upon information known personally to your Affiant based upon investigation and information obtained from others including but not limited to Richard Couto, who have investigated this matter and/or have personal knowledge of the facts herein. Because this affidavit is being submitted for a limited purpose of establishing probable cause, your Affiant has not included every aspect, fact, or detail of this investigation.

Richard Couto (hereinafter, "COUTO") is the founder and lead investigator for a non-profit organization known as the Animal Recovery Mission (ARM). The Animal Recovery Mission is dedicated to exposing illegal operations that inflict abuse and cruelty upon animals including the black market horse meat trade and illegal animal slaughter, sacrifice and fighting farms, as well as raising awareness of these crimes against animals. ARM has assisted and facilitated in investigations on prior occasions, in this County and other Florida Counties.

COUTO and his organization became aware of an animal slaughter operation that is operating on a piece of land owned by Rancho YCasa Vargas LLC<sup>1</sup>, located at 19400 SW 136<sup>th</sup> Street, within the County of Miami-Dade, property appraiser folio number 30-5823-000-0400, hereinafter referred to colloquially as "the farm" or "farm", that is illegally slaughtering animals, and in doing so, slaughtering said animals in a cruel manner, resulting in unnecessary pain and suffering to said animals in violation of the Florida Humane Slaughter Act, Fla. Stat. §828.22. Once aware of this activity, COUTO or another member of his organization, in an undercover capacity, entered the farm during their normal business hours while they were conducting the business of animal slaughter and posed as a potential customer. COUTO or another member of his organization, in an undercover capacity, with the use of camera equipment, was able to record the activities that were carried out within the farm that constitute the felony and misdemeanor animal cruelty as detailed below. The videos and reports that constitute much of

<sup>1</sup> According to the official records on file with the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations, Ranch YCasa Vargas, LLC was incorporated in 2008 and was originally located in Hialeah and the managing partner was Yamil Ycasa. On April 4, 2009 Angel R. Vargas was added as a member of the corporation. His address in the corporate amendment was listed as 19400 SW 136<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33177. On or about August 5, 2009, the articles of incorporation were amended and Angel R. Vargas became the manager of the LLC. On August 27, 2009, the principal place of business and mailing address became 19400 SW 136<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33177. As of the last filing/reinstatement, the current mailing address is 19400 SW 136<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33177, the current registered agent and general manager is Michael R. Vargas at that same address.



this affidavit have been personally reviewed by your affiant, who agrees with the findings insofar as felonious conduct.

During an investigation in 2014 of a property slaughtering horses in Miami Dade County, Florida, a tip was given to ARM undercover investigators to purchase meat from another farm nearby, which also may also be providing horse meat. Due to lack of manpower at the time, the investigation was put on hold until April of 2015, where ARM began long range surveillance of the property located at 19400 SW 136th Street, Miami, Florida 33175, aka the farm.

Since that time, ARM conducted long and short range surveillance of the property suspected of brutally killing and selling animals illegally for human consumption. A seven month long investigation was then commenced by ARM. During this investigation, undercover investigators documented video and audio evidence of extreme animal cruelty acts and felony charges of farm operators.

Over the course of the investigation, ARM personnel entered a farm on multiple occasions after suspicion of illegal animal slaughter arose. Upon each visit, ARM investigators documented and collected video and audio footage of extremely cruel and inhumane acts against animals carried out by the owner and operators of the farm. Evidence gathered through ARM's investigation proved that these acts were indeed taking place regularly on this illegal slaughter farm.

The slaughter farm has no business name. According to the Miami Dade County Property Appraisers website, the owner of the property is listed as Rancho Ycasa Vargas LLC and the property's folio number is 30-5823-000-0400. The approximately 205,000 square foot land is zoned solely for mixed agricultural use, however, there is a home and other structures built on the site.

The illegal slaughter farm is owned and operated by a Cuban male in his late 40's named RICARDO, who was later positively identified by ARM investigators as Angel RICARDO Vargas DOB: 5/29/1970 hereinafter RICARDO. RICARDO lives in the house located street side near 36th street, with what is believed to be his wife and children. It is believed that RICARDO operates the business part time, and is suspected of being a contractor as his primary source of income. RICARDO and his wife drive 2 cars that are typically parked on site. One is a black



Toyota Corolla, tag number is DFAQ26, the other is a Silver Nissan Sentra, tag number is 228LGB.

The slaughter area is roughly 400ft from RICARDO's house, and the butcher area is located at the most southern part of the property. Animals on site include pigs, hens, roosters, guinea fowl, ducks, turtles, pigeons, turkeys. Animals on site are either slaughtered and sold for human consumption, or sold for Santaria and black magic purposes. There are also dogs and cats living on site that are friendly and are believed to be pets. There are 5 holding areas on the property which house the animals living on site.

ARM investigators first entered the farm undercover on **May 1, 2015**, posing as customers looking to buy animals for human consumption. Upon entrance, an ARM investigator witnessed a pig being killed by RICARDO but it was out of site from ARM's undercover cameras. Caught on tape was the butchering and packaging of that pig. Once RICARDO finished packaging the pig, investigators then requested to purchase a larger pig. RICARDO brought the investigator back to the holding areas where there were about 25 pigs housed inside of 2 or 3 separate holding structures which are connected to the butcher area. The pigs on site consisted of farm pigs and wild hogs. Once the pig was selected, RICARDO took an old .22 caliber rifle and shot the pig in the head. The pig immediately dropped to the ground and while thrashing in pain, RICARDO shoved a foot long blade into the pig's heart. The pig then began convulsing in front of the pigs' holding area where the rest of the on looking pigs tried to defend the one suffering. While the pig was still alive and breathing, RICARDO then roughly inserted a gaff hook, a very sharp hook connected to a 5 foot metal pole, into the pig's mouth which tore through to the outside of its face. Hook inserted, the pig was then dragged by the pole for 75 feet to the butcher area where it was weighed to determine its price. RICARDO then dumped it into a boiling tub of water where it most likely drowned and burned to death. RICARDO then cleaned and butchered it, inserted it into a plastic bag and put it in ARM's undercover truck. The total price for the pig was \$300 which included the pig, kill fee, and butcher fee. The horrific acts were caught on video and are extremely graphic and utterly disturbing, the video is labeled MAH04916.MP4. Anyone with any degree of common sense can see the animal is panicking and suffering tremendously. The components of the kill and torture were viewed by a licensed veterinarian, Dr. Barbara Tomaras who concluded that "there is obvious signs and prolonged suffering that could



and should be avoided by the use of proper methods", Veterinary Report, Case: Operation Gaff Hook. There is probable cause to believe and your affiant believes RICARDO's conduct violated F.S. §828.12(2) and is felonious. Below are photos captured from video from the May 1, 2015:



ARM personnel reentered the farm again on **May 22, 2015**, to continue to capture video and audio footage of illegal and inhumane crimes against animals. When investigators called



RICARDO, they were told that RICARDO was out with his family and he advised them to come back the next day where he will kill a pig for them.

The next day, **May 23, 2015**, ARM undercover investigators came back to the farm to purchase two animals for human consumption. Instead, they could only purchase one because RICARDO said he was backed up with orders for other customers and the 25 pigs on the property were already accounted for. Investigators gathered that RICARDO had a constant customer flow based on the supply and demand. RICARDO brought investigators back to the holding area where he showed them a 75 pound pig that he would kill for them. He then began the killing process the same way in which he had on the first visit. After singling the pig out, he shot it in the head with a .22 caliber rifle. In efforts to violently stab the pig in the heart, it begins to thrash around on the ground. RICARDO then stomps on the pigs face and forces the blade deep into its body. While the pig is showing evident signs of life as it continues to thrash, RICARDO jabs the gaff hook into its heart and drags it to the butcher area while it is still shaking from the torment. Then while still alive, the pig is thrown into tub of boiling water where it finally dies. An individual, who is believed to be RICARDO's wife, who was later positively identified as Mayelin Rodriguez, DOB: 11/17/1974, hereinafter RODRIGUEZ, assisted him with the butchering and cleaning of the pig once taken out from the tub. The price of this pig was \$265.

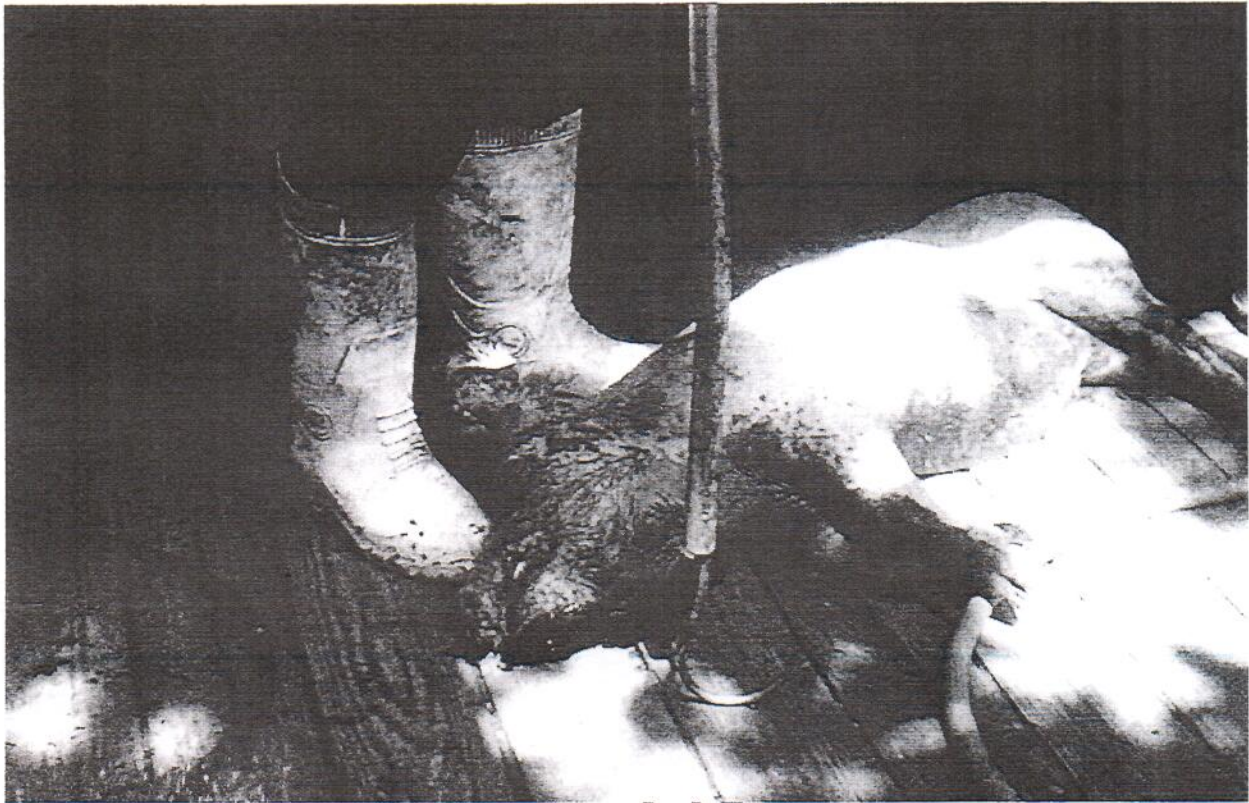
During the butchering of this pig, a customer named Raul Padrons, brings out a live 160 pound boar whose legs were tightly hog tied. Raul was driving a white van with the phone number 305-505-3598 displayed on it, and tag number was DKFA43. He brought the boar to RICARDO to kill, butcher and clean for h[REDACTED]

components of the kill and torture were viewed by a licensed veterinarian, Dr. Barbara Tomaras who concluded that "there is obvious signs and prolonged suffering that could and should be avoided by the use of proper methods", Veterinary Report, Case: Operation Gaff Hook. There is probable cause to believe and your affiant believes RICARDO's and RODRIGUEZ's conduct violated F.S. §828.12(2) and 777.011 (principal) and is felonious. Furthermore there is probable cause to believe that, by working together, in agreeing, conspiring, combining or confederating with one another, RICARDO and RODRIGUEZ also conspired to commit the act of animal cruelty violating, F.S. §828.12(2) and 777.04, also felonious. Below are photos captured from video from the May 23, 2015:



(See next page)





On June 5, 2015, ARM undercover investigators entered the farm again as customers and went directly to the back towards the butcher area. Upon arrival, RICARDO was in the middle of killing a pig for 3 awaiting customers. Investigators saw that the pig had already been stabbed in the chest and was bleeding profusely as it convulsed at the foot of the tub filled with boiling water. RICARDO and the customers were watching the pig, waiting for it to die. After 5 minutes passed and the pig was still showing signs of life, the customers began questioning RICARDO on when the pig was going to die so that he could start butchering it. RICARDO then stabbed the pig again in the heart and then dropped it into the tub of boiling water, thrashing as it hit the water. RICARDO took a shovel and held the pig under the water until it eventually drowned and burned to death. Once dead, the pig was then gutted, butchered, cleaned and sold to the awaiting customers. After the pig was sold, RICARDO took ARM personnel to the chicken area where there were about 500 chickens distributed amongst 5 different cage-like holding shelters. ARM requested 2 chickens to be purchased for consumption. RICARDO took the chickens to a silver stainless steel table where he stretched the chickens neck one by one, breaking their bones, killing them slowly. As one was harder to kill, RICARDO held it down against the table as it thrashed until it eventually suffocated or stopped resisting. He then dumped them into a pot of



boiling water to de-feather the birds. They were then butchered and sold to undercover investigators. The horrific acts were caught on video and are extremely graphic and utterly disturbing, the video is labeled MAH04947.MP4. Anyone with any degree of common sense can see the animal is panicking and suffering tremendously. The components of the kill and torture were viewed by a licensed veterinarian, Dr. Barbara Tomaras who concluded that "there is obvious signs and prolonged suffering that could and should be avoided by the use of proper methods", Veterinary Report, Case: Operation Gaff Hook. There is probable cause to believe and your affiant believes RICARDO's conduct violated F.S. §828.12(2) and is felonious. Below are photos captured from video from the June 5, 2015:



On one occasion where ARM was at the property, customers were calling RICARDO on his cell phone to place orders for horse meat. RICARDO was explaining that he did not have any at the time, but will in the future. ARM investigators suspect that RICARDO is supplying the Black Market Horse Meat Trade in Miami Dade County, Florida. It is unlawful to sell horse meat without proper stamping, labeling or processing. Nothing on the farm is stamped, marked or processed with any regard for human health or safety.



On **July 1, 2015**, ARM investigators tried to enter the farm to purchase animals, but the gate was locked and no one was present inside of RICARDO's home. Investigators called RICARDO's phone and he replied that he was busy with his family and could not kill that day.

On **August 7, 2015**, ARM investigators again requested animals from RICARDO, but he would not let them in and told investigators that the pigs were attacked by fire ants and he had no pigs to kill. He told investigators to come back another time.

On **August 15, 2015**, 2 different ARM undercover investigators called RICARDO from different phone numbers, requesting animals for consumption. RICARDO replied to both of them that he was out of pigs and could not do any business with them.

On **August 27, 2015**, ARM investigators visited the farm where they spoke with a person believed to be RICARDO's wife, RODRIGUEZ, who told them that she and RICARDO were busy tending to the kids before they go back to school in the next week. When requesting animals, *she* told investigators that they did not have time to kill that weekend.

The next visit was made in the middle of September 2015 when ARM investigators went back to the farm requesting animals for human consumption and again spoke with a person believed to be RICARDO's wife, RODRIGUEZ. RODRIGUEZ stated that they were running low on animals and the ones they had on site had already been sold to other customers.

The last call was made in the beginning of October 2015 when ARM undercover investigators called RICARDO seeking to purchase a pig. RICARDO stated that his animal inventory was low and he would give them a call when he got more animals in. It seemed as though RICARDO was becoming suspicious of ARM's undercover investigators and began stalling by making excuses not to sell them animals. Although ARM was not able to enter the property, long range surveillance was being conducted. Investigators observed the same customers entering and leaving the farm with slaughtered animals, clearly showing business was still occurring. After seeing that RICARDO no longer wanted to sell to ARM personnel the investigation was suspended.

On November 14, 2015, COUTO and an ARM Investigator went returned to the farm undercover. Prior to entering the property a long distance surveillance and witnessed customer activity including trucks and cars entering and leaving the property. Once the duo approached the gate, RICARDO greeted the undercover investigators. RICARDO was asked for a pig that they were looking to cook for a BBQ. RICARDO replied that he could not kill for them at that time. One of the ARM Investigators indicated they were referred to RICARDO by a friend. RICARDO indicated that he was no longer killing animals and had stopped killing a week ago. It was evident to the ARM Investigators that RICARDO was not being truthful, as he was covered in blood and wearing the white rubber boots that had he had been documented wearing in every animal kill. The ARM Investigators believe that RICARDO has been tipped off by someone a few months prior reference individuals trying to capture evidence of animal killings. The evidence indicates that RICARDO will now only associate and kill for people he is familiar with and has known for years.

Personnel from ARM contacted the Miami Dade Police Department and your affiant became involved in opening a criminal investigation. Reports, photos, videos and other data were transmitted by ARM to your affiant for review and investigation. Your affiant researched and investigated the property and the subjects, and ascertained a positive identification on both of RICARDO and RODRIGUEZ from an ARM Investigator and as plainly seen in the video. Your affiant contacted the Miami Dade State Attorney's Office and an investigation was commenced and based on the evidence, the instant arrest warrant was drafted.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, your affiant has probable cause to believe and does believe that Angel Ricardo Vargas, DOB: 5/29/1970 (RICARDO) is chargeable for (4) felony counts of Cruelty to Animals, contrary to F.S. §828.12(2) and 777.011, felonies in the third degree and (1) count of Conspiracy to Commit Cruelty to Animals, contrary to F.S. §828.12(2), 777.011 and 777.04, a felony in the third degree. and FURHTERMORE, your affiant has probable cause to believe and does believe that Mayelin Rodriguez, DOB: 11/17/1974 (RODRIGUEZ) ) is chargeable for (1) felony count of Cruelty to Animals, contrary to F.S. §828.12(2) and 777.011, a felony in the third degree and (1) count of Conspiracy to Commit Cruelty to Animals, contrary to F.S. §828.12(2), 777.011 and 777.04, a felony in the third



degree, all offenses to the evil example of all others in like cases offending and against the peace and dignity of the State of Florida.

Because the evidence is clear that this was an unlawful cash enterprise that unlawfully earned income by torturing and unlawfully butchering animals. Therefore your affiant prays that a *Nebbia* condition be affixed to any bond. Your affiant prays, based upon the quantity and caliber of evidence, as well as the nature of the acts and the enterprise, that a significant bond be affixed with house arrest and GPS monitoring as well a condition that if bond is posted the subjects can have no contact with or associate with any domestic farm animals or any business that deals, directly or indirectly with domestic farm animals.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Det. Marcus LOIS 30-5449  
MIAMI DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
(AFFIANT)

SWORN TO BEFORE ME, A JUDGE OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit in and for MIAMI  
DADE COUNTY, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of DECEMBER, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE