



APR 19 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

John Dollarhite
DBA: Dollarvalue Rabbitry
1537 Osborne Lane
Nixa, MO 65714

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Dear Sir(s):

Marketing &
Regulatory
Programs Business
Services

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) enforces regulations to protect the health and care of animals, plants, and agricultural industry. Violations of these regulations jeopardize the animal and plant health systems that are vital to protect American agriculture.

4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

Our investigation shows that you have violated the United States Code of Federal Regulations as described on the enclosed Stipulation. APHIS laws and regulations provide for administrative and criminal penalties to enforce these regulatory requirements, including civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for each of the violations documented in our investigation.

The Secretary of Agriculture may, after providing notice and opportunity for a hearing, impose civil penalties or other sanctions. You may, however, waive your right to a hearing and settle this matter by paying **\$90,643** by May 23, 2011 and signing the enclosed Stipulation.

Please pay the **\$90,643** penalty by certified check or money order made payable to the Treasurer of the United States or go to www.pay.gov to pay by credit card. Write the Case Number (MO09099-AC) on your check or money order and mail it with the signed Stipulation to:

USDA, APHIS, (General) (MO09099-AC)
P. O. Box 979043
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If we do not receive your signed stipulation agreement and payment or notice that you wish to exercise your right to a hearing by May 23, 2011, this matter will be forwarded to the Department's Office of the General Counsel (OGC) for litigation. Please know that the penalty offered in this Stipulation represents a fraction of the civil penalty APHIS may seek should we refer this matter to OGC. You may contact our office at telephone number (301) 734-8684 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure



Safeguarding American Agriculture
APHIS is an agency of USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Program
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Investigative and Enforcement Services

Settlement Agreement

USDA, APHIS, IES
 4700 River Road, Unit 85
 Riverdale, MD 20737
 Phone: (301) 734-8684
 Fax: (301) 734-4328

RESPONDENT:
 John Dollarhite
 DBA: Dollarvalue Rabbitry
 1537 Osborne Lane
 Nixa, MO 65714

CASE NUMBER MO09099-AC
DUE ON OR BEFORE May 23, 2011
CONTACT Ms. Roxanne Folk
PHONE (301) 734-5578

DATE	CITATION	DESCRIPTION
Various	9 C.F.R. § 2.1(a)(1)	<p>Licensing. Requirements and application. Any person operating or intending to operate as a dealer, exhibitor, or operator of an auction sale must have a valid license.</p> <p>Respondent sold rabbits and guinea pigs (regulated animals) in commerce without the required USDA license, after being formally notified on several occasions by APHIS officials of the licensing requirement. Sales were made on various dates from April 3, 2008 through December 21, 2009. During this time, there were 56 transactions for 619 regulated animals sold in commerce.</p>

PENALTY \$ 90,643.00

TERMS

Titles 7, 15, 19, and 21 of the United States Code authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, after providing notice and opportunity for a hearing, to impose civil penalties and other sanctions to resolve violations.

Prior to the issuance of a formal complaint seeking sanctions under the Act, The Department may enter into a stipulation to resolve the above-described violations. Your payment constitutes a waiver of your right to a hearing, a finding that the violations of law have occurred, and settlement of such violations.

If you do not pay the specified penalty within the designated time or wish to exercise your right to a hearing, this matter will be forwarded to the Office of the General Counsel for litigation. The penalty offered in this stipulation is not relevant to the sanctions the Department may seek, or that will be assessed, upon issuance of a formal complaint.

Signature of Respondent: _____ **Date:** _____

PAYMENT RECORD - FOR IES USE ONLY

Payment Type	Date	Amount	Signature of IES Representative