



## United States Department of Agriculture

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Legislative and Public Affairs

Freedom of

4700 River Road Unit 50 Riverdale, MD 20737-1232



This is in response to your March 19, 2005 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request in which you requested a copy of the list of licensed horse dealers for the states of Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. Your request was received in this Office on March 21, 2005 and assigned case number FOIA 05-443. I apologize for the delay of this response.

Agency employees have conducted a thorough search of their files and enclosed is a one-page response of horse owners/shippers regulated by USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for slaughter purposes. We withheld a portion of information under Exemption 6 of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). This exemption protects information from disclosure when its release would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

For your information, the Agency does not maintain a list of horse dealers. To clarify, APHIS does not regulate or license horse dealers under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) or the Horse Protection Act (HPA). APHIS does regulate and register facilities that use horses for biomedical research under the AWA. Under the HPA, APHIS also monitors horse owners, trainers, riders and sponsors of horse shows for the illegal and inhumane practice of making a horse sore to enhance its performance. Finally, APHIS also regulates horse owners and shippers that bring horses to slaughter.

You may appeal our denial of this information. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and must be sent within 45 days of the date of this letter to:

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

Please refer to FOIA 05-443 in your appeal letter and add the words "FOIA Appeal" to the front of the envelope. To assist the Administrator in reviewing your appeal, provide specific reasons why you believe modification of the determination is warranted.





we are there with the animals

FOIA 05-443

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Cynthia Eck of this Office at (301) 734-5193.

Sincerely,

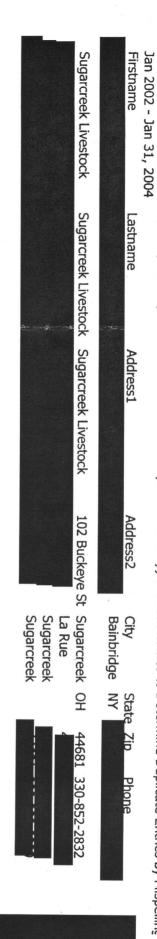
Lesia M. Banks, MBA

Director

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act Staff

Legislative and Public Affairs





Horse Owner/Shippers Grouped By State (Includes State Counts - Unique Names Only) Check Names to Determine Duplicate Entries by Mispelling