



Steve Troxler  
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
*Meat and Poultry Inspection Division*

W. Alan Wade  
State Director

April 15, 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Adam Farms, LLC  
Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam  
187 Stiles Packing Lane  
Marble, North Carolina 28905

RE: CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT FOR VIOLATIONS  
OF THE MEAT INSPECTION LAWS  
G.S. § 106-549.23

Dear: Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute (G.S.) 106-549.35(c) this letter is notice of a civil penalty by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Meat and Poultry Inspection Division (N.C.D.A. & C.S.). The civil penalty assessment document is attached.

Within 60 days from the date of receipt, you must do one of the following:

1. Pay the civil penalty assessment; or
2. File a written petition for a contested case hearing in the Office of Administrative Hearings appealing the penalty assessment.

Pursuant to G.S. §150B-22, informal settlement negotiations may be initiated at any time. To negotiate a settlement of this assessment, present your offer to Mr. W. Alan Wade, Director, Meat & Poultry Inspection Division, who may be contacted by telephone at (919) 707-3180. Settlement offers do not extend the 60 day deadline for payment or filing of a contested case petition.

Additional information about your options is provided below:

**-PAYMENT-**

To pay the penalty, please send your payment by check or money order made payable to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to:

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Mr. W. Alan Wade, Director  
Meat & Poultry Inspection Division  
1001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1001

**-APPEAL-**

If you file a contested case petition, it must be in writing and in the form prescribed by G.S. § 150B-23. File the petition and one copy with:

Office of Administrative Hearings  
6714 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1001

Any questions about filing a petition may be directed to the Clerk of OAH by telephone (919) 733-0926. You must serve NCDA&CS by mailing a copy of the petition to:

Ms. Tina Hlabse  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Process Agent and General Counsel  
1001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1001

Payment of the penalty will not foreclose further enforcement action against you for any new violation. If the violations which resulted in the assessment are of a continuing nature, N.C.D.A. & C.S. reserves the right to assess additional civil penalties in the future or take other enforcement action against you.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Mr. W. Alan Wade  
Director, Meat & Poultry Inspection Division

WAW:dm

Attachments: Assessment Document

CC: Ms. Anne J. Brown, Special Deputy Attorney General  
Joe Reardon, Assistant Commissioner, N.C.D.A. & C.S.  
Tina Hlabse, General Counsel, N.C.D.A. & C.S.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF CHEROKEE

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES,  
MEAT & POULTRY INSPECTION DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF )

Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam )  
Adam Farms, LLC )

FOR VIOLATIONS OF N.C. COMPULSORY )  
MEAT INSPECTION LAWS )  
G.S. § 106-549.23 )

NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS  
AND ASSESSMENT OF  
CIVIL PENALTY

Acting pursuant to North Carolina General Statute (G.S.) § 106-549.35(c), Mr. W. Alan Wade, Director, Meat and Poultry Inspection Division (M.P.I.D.) of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (N.C.D.A. & C.S.) makes the following:

I. FINDINGS OF FACTS:

- A. This investigation is a result of information received from an anonymous complaint which alleged that Adam Farms, LLC (owned/operated by Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam), 187 Stiles Packing Lane, Marble, North Carolina 28905 is operating a custom slaughtering and processing facility without the benefit of N.C.D.A. (State) or U.S.D.A. (Federal) inspection.
- B. On February 25, 2014, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (N.C.D.A. & C.S.), Meat and Poultry Inspection Division (M.P.I.D.), Food Compliance Officers Percy Russell, Philip Renshaw and Daniel E. Moody Jr. visited Adam Farms (187 Stiles Packing Lane, Marble, North Carolina 28905), owned/operated by Mr. Jacob Adam, to investigate the alleged complaint of operating a custom slaughtering and processing facility without the benefit of N.C.D.A. (State) or U.S.D.A. (Federal) inspection.
- C. At the entrance to the property Food Compliance Officers Russell, Renshaw and Moody observed a large sign at the driveway which stated "Packing House Now Open 828-837-5094 Work and 828-361-2257 Cell".
- D. On February 25, 2014, Food Compliance Officers Russell, Renshaw and Moody interviewed Mr. Jacob Adam in reference to the alleged custom slaughtering and processing of animals and meat products for the general public without the benefit of required facility and sanitation inspection.
- E. In a signed statement dated February 25, 2014, Mr. Jacob Adam, owner/operator of Adam Farms, LLC, stated that he had been operating a custom slaughter and/or processing operation, without the benefit of the N.C.D.A. (State) or U.S.D.A. (Federal) facility and sanitation inspection, as required for approximately five (5) months.
- F. A review of the facility's cooler and freezer revealed an estimated 1,015 pounds (56 boxes of beef and pork meat wrapped in white freezer paper) of misbranded meat products which were N.C. Detained (Tag Number 3251) and photographed.
- G. Further investigation revealed the detained misbranded meat products were owned by various members of the general public who had brought their live animals to Adams Farms, LLC in good faith to have them slaughtered and processed for their own personal use.

- H. Food Compliance Officers Russell, Renshaw and Moody inspected and reviewed the aforementioned detained meat products, which appeared to be wholesome, and released them for personal usage so they could be returned to the original owners after verifying they were identified as "Not For Sale" and the signing of Form C&E 15 (Release of Detained Product).
- I. On February 25, 2014, Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam was issued a warning letter addressing the custom slaughtering and processing of meat products without required inspection (Form C&E 19) and was also issued an on-site cease and desist letter (Form C&E 20) for the storing of misbranded meat products, that were custom slaughtered and/or custom processed, without the benefit of N.C.D.A. (State) or U.S.D.A. (Federal) facility and sanitation inspection.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- A. Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam, owner/operator of Adam Farms, LLC, was found to be operating a custom slaughter/processing facility, without the benefit of required N.C.D.A. (State) or U.S.D.A. (Federal) facility and sanitation inspection and the storing of misbranded meat products in violation of General Statutes § 106-549.23 and may be assessed a civil penalty of up to five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars per violation under General Statute § 106-549.35 (c).
- B. The Commissioner of Agriculture, pursuant to General Statute §106-549.35 (c), has the authority to assess civil penalties in this matter. The authority has been delegated to Mr. W. Alan Wade, Director, Meat and Poultry Inspection Division by the Commissioner of Agriculture pursuant to General Statute § 143B-10(a).

III. DECISION

As required by General Statute § 106-549.35 (c) in determining the amount of the civil penalty, I have considered the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation of General Statutes § 106-549.23.

Accordingly Mr. Yakub Jacob Adam, owner/operator of Adam Farms, LLC, is assessed a civil penalty of:

\$1,000.00 for violating General Statutes § 106.549.23  
\$1,000.00 TOTAL AMOUNT ASSESSED.

4/15/14  
Date

W. Alan Wade  
W. Alan Wade  
Meat and Poultry Inspection Division