



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

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

Donald H. Delozier
State Director

January 18, 2012

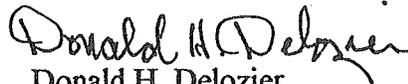
CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Stephen Edwards
215 Highway 21
State Road, NC 28676

We have an investigative case report showing that you violated the North Carolina Compulsory Meat Inspection Law. This reported violation was discussed with you on September 28, 2011. Specifically, our investigation revealed that you are operating a custom processing operation for beef cattle without required facilities and sanitation inspection by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS), Meat and Poultry Inspection Division (MPID). You stated in a signed statement dated September 28, 2011 that you operated a custom processing operation for beef cattle without required facilities and sanitation inspection for a month.

Please be advised that the custom processing of amenable meat products (beef cattle in this case) for the general public without benefit of required sanitation and facility inspection by NCDA&CS, MPID is a violation of North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) §106-549.23 with civil and/or criminal penalties. Please be advised that you will not receive any further warning with regard to this violation. If you should continue to conduct custom processing of beef cattle without required facility and sanitation inspection by NCDA&CS, MPID, we will pursue legal action against you to invoke the penalties associated with these continued violations. I certainly hope this expensive action will not be necessary. An officer from this department will visit you periodically to verify compliance.

Sincerely,


Donald H. Delozier
State Director

cc: Mr. Barry Bloch, Assistant Attorney General
Mr. Ray Starling, General Counsel
Mr. Howard Isley, Assistant Commissioner