

July 29, 2009

Eric Gibson, Director
Department of Planning and Land Use
County of San Diego
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Gibson:

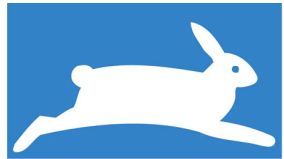
I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 2 million members and supporters about a possible zoning violation to which we were alerted by a July 23, *North County Times* article titled, "EXCLUSIVE: Live pigs wounded, euthanized in troop trauma training."

The article states that live pigs were recently shot and stabbed on a 17-acre avocado grove on Pala Loma Drive owned by David Bishop, an Escondido police and SWAT officer, as part of trauma training exercises conducted by Gig Harbor, Washington-based Deployment Medicine International (DMI).

Mr. Bishop's land parcel (Assessors Property Number 128-093-01-00) is zoned A70, limited agricultural, and according to section 2700 through 2709 (known as the A70 Limited Agricultural Use Regulations) of the County of San Diego's zoning ordinance, trauma or medical training exercises using animals are not listed as permitted land use applications.

Therefore, it appears that Mr. Bishop and/or DMI are in violation of San Diego County's zoning ordinance for inappropriate land use and are subject to all penalties cited in section 7703 of the zoning ordinance, which states: "It shall be unlawful for any person to use any property ... in violation of any of the provisions of this Ordinance. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance, including the violation of any condition of a use permit, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor ..."

The use of this land for this purpose is made more troubling by the fact that there is no need to mutilate and kill pigs in these outdated exercises. Valid non-animal methods that better model human anatomy and physiology, such as the Combat Trauma Patient Simulator, are readily available. Further, pigs are intelligent animals who suffer greatly during the more than 1000-mile journey in the sweltering heat from Washington to California. At least 13 pigs from



PETA

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

501 FRONT ST.
NORFOLK, VA 23510
757-622-PETA
757-622-0457 (FAX)

PETA.org
Info@peta.org

AN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION DEDICATED
TO PROTECTING
THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS

DMI died last summer during transport to other training sites, apparently due to poor living conditions or inadequate veterinary care.

We request that you thoroughly investigate this matter and apply all appropriate penalties against Mr. Bishop and/or DMI to prevent further misuse of land and animal suffering. You may contact me directly at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. Thank you, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shalin G. Gala", written over a horizontal line.

Shalin G. Gala, Laboratory Methods Specialist
Laboratory Investigations Department