



Food Safety and Inspection Service

April 2, 2024

Office of Field Operations  
Jackson District Office  
713 S Pear Orchard Rd.  
Plaza 2, Suite 402  
Ridgeland, MS 39157

Buckaroo Meat Company  
Est. M47696  
4727 Hwy 70  
Camden, Tennessee 38320  
[buckarooomeat@gmail.com](mailto:buckarooomeat@gmail.com)  
731-676-0214

ELECTRONIC MAIL on April 2, 2024  
FEDEX TRACKING # 775782583945

Attention: Mr. Billy Sauls, Co-Owner and Mr. Joseph Wimberly, Co-Owner

### **NOTICE OF SUSPENSION HELD IN ABEYANCE**

On March 27, 2024, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued a Notice of Suspension to your establishment to withhold the federal marks of inspection and suspend the assignment of Inspection Program Personnel (IPP) at Buckaroo Meat Company, Est. M47696, located at 4727 Hwy 70, Camden, TN. This action included your Slaughter Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) processes employed at your establishment. The decision to institute this enforcement action was in accordance with Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Rules of Practice 500.3(b), based on the determination that your establishment did not handle or slaughter animals humanely. The evidence demonstrated failure to comply with the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 603), the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act (HMSA) (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.), and the regulatory requirements (9 CFR Part 313).

On March 27, 2024, at approximately, 2:10 PM, while performing a humane handling verification task, the Consumer Safety Inspector (CSI), observed the following: a pig was loaded into the knock box (3 wooden fence slates chained together) with no head restraint available. Your establishment employee first attempted to apply stunning methods with a captive bolt gun. The pig remained standing and conscious after the first attempt. Your establishment employee made a second attempt with the captive bolt which contacted the animal, but was again ineffective, the pig remained standing. There was a delay as a second establishment employee left the area to the parking lot where a 9mm handgun was stored in your employee's car as it was not immediately available. Your establishment employee then made a third stunning attempt with the 9mm which contacted the animal but was ineffective, as the animal remained standing. Your employee immediately fired a second shot with the 9mm handgun which effectively rendered the animal unconscious, and it remained so thereafter. Immediate regulatory control action was taken by placing US Reject/Retain tag (NO. B-45684915) on your establishment's knock box and Establishment Manager Max Fisher was notified of the non-compliance and of the regulatory control action.

Billy Sauls, Co-Owner  
Joseph Wimberly, Co-Owner  
Buckaroo Meat Company, Est. M47696

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On March 28 and March 29, 2024, you submitted written responses with corrective actions and preventive measures to meet regulatory requirements. The Jackson District Office (JDO) analyzed your responses and advised you that the proffered corrective actions and preventive measures were not adequate. Requests for clarification and additional information was sent via electronic mail from the JDO to your establishment on March 28 and April 1, 2024.

On April 1, 2024, you submitted all clarification and additional information with written corrective actions and preventive measures to meet regulatory requirements. The Jackson District Office analyzed your proffered corrective actions and preventive measures and determined that the response adequately addressed the identified issues. On April 2, 2024, at approximately 10:30 AM, the FSIS Jackson District Office verbally informed you of FSIS's decision to hold the suspension in abeyance. This letter is to formally inform you of this action.

A copy of the FSIS Verification Plan (VP) will be provided to assist you in understanding the nature and importance of the Agency's verification activities. The FSIS Verification Plan is designed to verify that your establishment properly implements the revisions to its humane handling of animals and other corrective actions and preventive measures stated in your March 28, March 29, and April 1, 2024, responses and that these revisions and corrective actions and preventive measures are effective in ensuring future regulatory compliance. The FSIS Verification Plan identifies your corrective actions, the regulatory requirement(s), and the PHIS Task under which FSIS officials will verify the implementation and effectiveness of your proffered action plan. Only FSIS can amend the verification plan and any modifications to your submitted acceptable corrective actions made during the abeyance period will need to be submitted in writing to FSIS for verification of compliance prior to implementation by your establishment.

Please be advised that this suspension of inspection at your establishment will remain in Abeyance pending verification by FSIS that your proposed corrective actions and preventive measures have been implemented and are effective in ensuring future regulatory compliance. Agency personnel will begin immediate verification of your corrective actions and preventive measures.

It is important for you to understand that FSIS has the responsibility to initiate action if your establishment fails to operate in accordance with the regulations, or conditions occur that do not comply with the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act. In these situations, FSIS personnel will take regulatory control of product or other appropriate action.

Please be further advised that as a federally inspected establishment, you are expected to comply with the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act, and all applicable regulations and other requirements concerning the preparation, sale, and transportation of meat products. Failure to comply with these requirements or to effectively implement the measures addressed in your responses, dated March 28, March 29, and April 1,

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2024, could result in the immediate suspension of inspection at your establishment or other appropriate action(s).

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Larry Davis via telephone at (601) 863-4206 or via electronic mail at [larry.davis4@usda.gov](mailto:larry.davis4@usda.gov). Additionally, you can contact the Jackson District Office at (601) 965-4312 or by fax at (601) 965-5901.

Sincerely,

**KERMIT** Digitally signed by  
KERMIT HARVEY  
**HARVEY** Date: 2024.04.02  
10:16:40 -05'00'

*for:*

Dr. Larry Davis  
District Manager  
Jackson District Office

Billy Sauls, Co-Owner  
Joseph Wimberly, Co-Owner  
Buckaroo Meat Company, Est. M47696

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Cc: Ms. Melissa Moore, EARO  
(b) (6), Humane Handling Enforcement Coordinator  
Mr. Larry Hortert, OIEA Regional Director  
Dr. Larry Davis, DM  
Dr. Kermit Harvey, DDM  
Ms. Cheryl Henry, DDM  
Dr. Erin Moses, DDM  
(b) (6), SEIAO  
(b) (6), DCS  
(b) (6), DVMS  
(b) (6), Acting FLS  
(b) (6), FLS  
(b) (6), SPHV at Est. M47696  
FO/Quarterly Reports