

Who We Are

Investigative and Enforcement Services (IES) is a component of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). IES is responsible for investigation and enforcement of alleged violations relating to animals and plants under APHIS' jurisdiction.

The number of cases that IES investigates each year is growing. For example, in 2001, IES conducted 1,663 cases and collected civil penalties in the amount of \$478,275. In 2005, IES conducted 3,253 cases and collected civil penalties in the amount of \$1,624,584—a 51-percent increase in the caseload and more than a threefold increase in the dollar value of civil penalties.



Typical cases include the investigation of illegal smuggling of forbidden animal or plant products (working in cooperation with APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program) or enforcing APHIS' Animal Care program's standards for breeders of dogs at the wholesale level.

IES supports the APHIS mission through comprehensive investigations conducted by a diverse cadre of professional field investigators. Based on the documented evidence compiled in an investigative case file, IES' Enforcement Operations delivers professional, timely, fair, and objective enforcement of USDA regulations. IES' Intelligence Analysis Unit (IAU) supports both investigations and enforcement activities by providing thorough research and information to assist IES investigators with their cases. About 40 IES field investigators work from the agency's Eastern Region, in Raleigh, NC, and cover 28 States and Territories. Another 40 field investigators work out of APHIS' Western Region, located in Fort Collins, CO, and cover 22 States and Territories. Enforcement Operations and the IAU's activities are directed from IES headquarters in Riverdale, MD.

Who Are Our Customers

IES' primary customers are APHIS programs, including Animal Care, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, International Services, Plant Protection and Quarantine, and Veterinary Services. IES also serves

- USDA's Office of the General Counsel (OGC);
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP);
- State cooperators;
- Other Federal, State, and local regulatory or law enforcement agencies; and
- Anyone, internal or external to IES, making inquiries for information regarding APHIS' regulations. This includes congressional or media contacts and the general public.

IES Services

IES directs and coordinates investigations related to the laws and regulations underpinning APHIS programs, through factfinding and civil and criminal investigations with other Federal, State, and local regulatory or law enforcement agencies. IES also administers other types of enforcement actions (e.g., Official Warnings, Spot Settlements, Stipulations, and actions undertaken through the Formal Administrative Procedure Act) and coordinates enforcement with USDA's Office of the General Counsel. IES also provides

- Assessment/analysis of information;
- Evaluation and dissemination of intelligence;
- Training;
- Outreach at conferences, seminars, and trade shows;
- Program support;



- Legal interpretations of APHIS program laws and regulations;
- Responses to questions by phone or letter; and
- A database of violators of APHIS laws and regulations; and
- Intelligence analysis to support investigative and enforcement efforts through comprehensive information-gathering.

IES Standards

The IES workforce pledges to all our clients that

- Our service to you will be professional, timely, and courteous and will actively respond to your needs.
- We will protect customer confidentiality.
- Our customers will be treated with fairness and respect.
- If we cannot answer your questions immediately, we will respond to your telephone calls by the close of the next business day.
- The Enforcement Operations staff will provide professional, timely, fair, and objective enforcement of USDA regulations.

IES' Future

We are committed to delivering professional service and making continual improvement. We will continue to explore initiatives to improve our service to you.

IES Authorities

Under delegated authorities from the Secretary of Agriculture, IES enforces multiple laws passed by Congress. IES is responsible for investigations and enforcement activities related to the following acts:

- Animal Welfare Act
- Horse Protection Act
- Plant Protection Act (including "inspection animals" at airports)
- Animal Health Protection Act
- Federal Seed Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Honey Bee Act
- Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act
- Humane Transport of Equines to Slaughter Act
- Virus-Serum-Toxin Act
- Swine Health Protection Act
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Lacey Act.

APHIS regulatory authority is derived from Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The CFR codifies the general and permanent rules published in the *Federal Register* by the executive branch departments and agencies of the Federal Government. IES focuses on these subjects covered under Title 9 of the CFR:

- Animal welfare;
- Horse protection;
- Disease eradication;
- Interstate movement of livestock, plants, plant products, or plant pests;
- Veterinary biologics; and
- APHIS' accredited veterinarian program.



In addition to Title 9, IES is responsible for investigations and enforcement activities related to the following authorities from Title 7 of the CFR:

- Biological toxins and agents,
- Domestic quarantines,
- Endangered species,
- Foreign quarantines,
- Genetically engineered organisms,
- Hawaii quarantines,
- Honey bees,
- Import/Export,
- Noxious weeds,
- Plant pests, and the
- Seed Act.

How To Contact Us

For more information regarding IES activities, please visit our Web site at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ies> or contact us at:

■ USDA-APHIS-IES

4700 River Road, Unit 85
Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
301-734-8684

■ Eastern Region

USDA-APHIS-IES
920 Main Campus Drive, Ste. 200
Raleigh, NC 27606
919-855-7080

■ Western Region

USDA-APHIS-IES
2150 Centre Avenue
Bldg B-3W10
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117
970-494-7485

In accordance with our plan for continuous improvement to meet customer needs, we welcome your comments, suggestions, and questions. This information assists us in improving our service to our customers. We look forward to hearing from you.

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