A F F I D A V I T

1   My name is Paul Carney. I make this statement freely and voluntarily, and hereby swear

2   under penalty of perjury that it is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

3

4   I am a Consumer Safety Inspector with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety

5   and Inspection Service (FSIS). I have been an inspector for twenty-eight years, and I currently

6   work in FSIS's Santa Anna Circuit in southern California.

7

8   I am very concerned by recent statements made by the Department of Agriculture in

9   response to the discovery of a cow with mad cow disease in Washington state. As an inspector

10   with twenty-eight years experience I cannot agree that the U.S. beef supply is being adequately

11   protected against mad cow. I make this statement today because I do not think the public is

12   getting correct information or enough information about what USDA is doing - or not doing –

13   to prevent mad cow.

14

15   I can state, from first hand knowledge, that there is no systematic testing for mad cow in

16   the plants where I work or anywhere else in this District. The testing that does occur in the U.S.

17   is in a few scattered areas, and done on a completely voluntary basis. At the current time there is

18   no requirement that any beef producer test a single cow for this disease.

19

20   In addition, the testing that is carried out is without adequate controls or oversight to

21   make sure it is effective. Meat processing plant personnel do all of the sampling – they choose

22   which cows to test, they take the samples themselves and send them to Animal Plant and Health

23   Inspection Service (APHIS), or APHIS picks up the sample. The FSIS inspectors in the plant

24   have nothing to do with it. My point is that we can't verify that the sample is from a particular

25   herd or cow. We just trust the industry to pick out the most suspect cows from their own herds,

26   then we test those, and tell the public there is no mad cow.

27   We simply are not testing enough or with a process that has sufficient integrity to really

1   know whether this disease is in U.S. meat. Statements like the ones I have heard the Secretary

2   make are premature and irresponsible. To say that catching one cow proves that our testing is

3   effective at stopping mad cow from entering our beef supply is very misleading.

4

5   Signed under penalty of perjury,

6

7   *Paul Carney*   Date: 1/14/04
    Paul Carney

CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

State of California

County of _Los Angeles_ } ss.

On _Jan. 14, 2004_, before me, _D.S. Williams, Notary Public._
Date   Name and Title of Officer (e.g., "Jane Doe, Notary Public")

personally appeared _Paul Carney_
Name(s) of Signer(s)

☒ personally known to me
☒ proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence

to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

D. S. Williams
Signature of Notary Public

D. S. WILLIAMS
Commission # 1270665
Notary Public - California
Los Angeles County
My Comm. Expires Jul 14, 2004

Place Notary Seal Above

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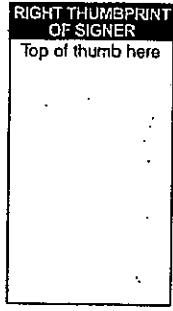
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☐ Attorney in Fact
☐ Trustee
☐ Guardian or Conservator
☐ Other: _____

Signer Is Representing: _____

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