

## Sample Memorandum of Interview

*Sample Memorandum of Interview regarding a suspension taken for an egregious situation of inhumane handling or slaughter*

### Memorandum of Interview

February 15, 2008

Today, February 15, 2008, at approximately 3:15pm, I verbally notified Mr. Bob Jones, Plant Manager, of my decision to suspend inspection at Establishment XXX. I advised Mr. Jenkins that I was also contacting the District Office about the suspension action and that the District Office would be following up with a written suspension letter to the plant. I based my decision to suspend inspection at the plant on the following:

At approximately 2:35pm today, after examining hogs in suspect pen #2, I observed a hog that had already been stunned lying on the floor next to the south end of the shackle table. Upon closer observation, I saw that the hog was breathing rhythmically and had an intact palpebral reflex. The hog was also attempting to sit up but was unable to do so. Two plant employees, Ms. Sally Johnson and Mr. Tim Pratt, were standing at the suspect pen laughing as the hog was repeatedly attempting to sit up but unable to do. There was also one hog in the squeeze retainer that was about to be stunned and one hog that had been recently stunned hanging on the bleed chain in preparation for further processing.

I instructed plant employees to immediately re-stun the hog that was repeatedly attempting to sit up and I observed the proper re-stunning of this animal. I also instructed plant employees to properly stun the one hog that was in the squeeze retainer and I observed the proper stunning of this animal. I then advised plant employees that further processing of these two hogs and the one hog hanging on the bleed chain could continue, but that I was implementing a regulatory control action to prevent the slaughter of animals until the inhumane stunning issues could be addressed. I then tagged the gate that allowed hogs to enter to the squeeze retainer thereby stopping the slaughter process. I then left the stunning area and located the Plant Foreman, Mr. Ronald Tucker to alert him of this situation. I advised Mr. Tucker that the regulatory control action to stop further stunning would remain in place. I also advised him that due to the seriousness of this matter, an immediate suspension was being taken and that I was alerting the District Office of the suspension.

/s/ Inspector-in-Charge, Jim James

NOTE: This sample MOI is intended to convey the minimum information to be included to support an immediate suspension for inhumane handling or slaughter. It is recognized that on a "case by case" basis and through discussions held with the District Office/DVMS, that a MOI may contain more detail to describe the facts and the basis for taking the suspension action.