



February 12, 2015

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Animal Care
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

MEMORANDUM

TO: Horse Protection Stakeholders

FROM: Chester A. Gipson *CAG*
Deputy Administrator
Animal Care

SUBJECT: Videotaping Inspections

Effective beginning with the 2015 show season, show management may allow an additional person associated with a horse (the rider, the groom, or the trainer) into the inspection area to videotape the inspection process. The person videotaping the horse cannot be the custodian (person holding the horse during the inspection process). No person can interfere with or impede the inspection process (See 15 USC 1825(a)(C)). USDA will request that persons interfering with the inspection process be removed from the inspection area by show management. The inspection is concluded when the USDA inspector completes the palpation process and informs the custodian that the horse is in compliance or not in compliance.

Show management shall provide the USDA inspector with an adequate, safe and accessible area for the visual inspection and observation of horses. Due to the additional person, the inspection area may need to be enlarged which may limit the number of horses allowed in the inspection area.

Show management is responsible for the safety of all personnel allowed into the inspection area (See 9 CFR 11.6).

For more information on Show Management's responsibility, **please visit:**
www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/hp/



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