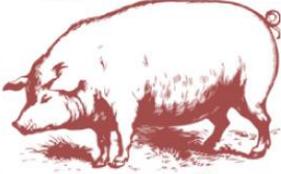


Mary's Ranch

Since  1978

Matadero Cabrera

MEDIA STATEMENT

12/22/20

It has come to our attention that an undercover operation captured video of Mary's Ranch, and is making erroneous claims about our facility. Let me start by saying that we take the ethical treatment of animals very seriously, and follow the strictest protocols in the work we do every day. For four decades, our family-run business has been a proud corporate citizen in South Florida; creating jobs, partnering with leading retail partners, and bringing joy to dinner tables across our community.

For that reason, protecting our hard-earned reputation is critical, and we strongly refute all claims made by this organization. We wish to clearly lay out some facts:

- The claims made against us are by a purported "animal welfare organization" whose sole mission and reason for being is to identify, hunt down and attack companies it claims mistreat animals.
- The organization is very clearly interested in raising funds as its primary goal, and the home page of its website most prominently features "Donate Now"
- No one associated with this organization is a regulator or governmental employee. In fact, none of these accusations are being made by the groups that oversee our industry, and we have a spotless track record of complying with all federal, state and local laws.
- On the group's OWN WEBSITE, it points out the following "In 43 years of operating, neither the facility or the owner and operator, have received even one violation from the USDA Food Safety Inspection Services (FSIS)."
- The main complaint lodged against us references an unfortunate incident in which one of the animals we were slaughtering did not succumb after our first initial attempt to put it down. This is definitely an exception and not the rule. We leverage our expertise and technology to ensure animals are treated humanely, but like any procedure dealing with live animals, there is occasional unpredictability. When this does occur, we greatly regret the unique result and work diligently to improve. The insinuation that there is nefarious intent is irresponsible and entirely incorrect.
- Lastly, this is a unique business that is understandably not going to appease everyone. We know that certain groups (be they vegans, rights organizations, etc) will never be pleased that a company like ours exists, but that doesn't make what we do wrong. Simply put, we are responsible for providing meats, pork, lamb and more to a willing public that has trusted the quality of our products since 1978.

We are always looking to improve our processes, and this situation will certainly be thoroughly reviewed to understand how we can enhance our safety procedures. That said, we are a family-run company that takes great pride in our work, and don't take criticism lightly. We will aggressively combat our accusers in the court of law, and are immediately taking legal action to protect our hard-earned reputation.