

7.21.2022

LL.M. Program in Agricultural and Food Law  
1045 W. Maple St.  
University of Arkansas  
Fayetteville, AR 72701

RE: Humane Handling Educational Resources for Farmers, Ranchers, and Small Processors  
Southern SARE Education Grant Proposal

To Whom it May Concern:

I commit to participating in and supporting the 2023 application to the Southern SARE Education Grant entitled “Humane Handling Educational Resources for Farmers, Ranchers, and Small Processors.” There is a great need for educational resources for small farmers because local niche markets are increasing, and farmers are often not aware of humane animal handling practices. Without proper education, farmers may be unknowingly using tools and techniques to slaughter their animals that causes unnecessary pain and suffering.

I joined the University of Arkansas as the Director of the Center for Food Animal Well-being in January 2022. I am driven to collaborate with the U of A Law School on topics related to policies and procedures that affect farm animal well-being, and this project is an excellent start. I have worked in the swine industry in quality assurance and procurement roles. I am an animal welfare expert and well versed in auditing for both animal welfare and food safety compliance and hold certifications from HACCP (Hazardous Critical Control points) and PAACO (Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization).

I am interested in improving small processor humane handling regulatory compliance in Arkansas and Oklahoma. As a former Extension Agent at the University of Maryland, I am passionate about teaching farmers about ways to improve their animal management practices because oftentimes the benefits of adopting practices that are scientifically validated as beneficial to the animal also benefit farmer profitability and food safety.

I am delighted to commit to actively participating in this two-year project from April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2025 and will support the project by providing my expertise as resources from the Center For Food Animal Well-being.

Sincerely,



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