



State of North Carolina

Department of Justice
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REPLY TO:
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mey*

ROY COOPER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 18, 2009

CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Gloria Torres
Frutas Y Verduras El Pueblo
6927 Albemarle Road
Charlotte, NC 28227

Dear Ms. Torres:

This Office represents the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (hereinafter, "NCDACS") and this letter is written in that capacity.

We recently received information from NCDACS concerning misbranded meat products that you stored, offered for sale and sold to the general public. Specifically, the NCDACS investigation found approximately 11 pounds of misbranded meat products (pork chicharones) with no NCDA or USDA mark of inspection or required labeling. In a signed statement dated March 3, 2009, you admitted that you purchased between 10 to 15 pounds at a time of the misbranded pork chicharones, which were packaged in clear plastic bags with no marks of inspection, from a salesman driving a truck, whose name, address and telephone number were unknown to you. You further stated that you sold the misbranded meat products to the general public for approximately five months. Your store does not operate under county, state or federal inspection.

Please be advised that the sale of misbranded and/or uninspected meat is a violation of North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) §106-549.23 with civil and criminal penalties. Please understand that you will not receive any further warning with regard to this violation. If you should continue to sell misbranded and/or uninspected meat products, the NCDACS will pursue legal action against you to invoke the penalties associated with these continued violations. I certainly hope this expensive action will not be necessary.

Sincerely,

Anne J. Brown
Special Deputy Attorney General

AJB/alh

cc: Mr. Donald H. Delozier, MPID Director

RECEIVED

SEP 22 2009

NCDACS
MEAT & POULTRY INSPECTION

*9/25/09 cc: P. Russell
Mecklenburg Co. Health Dept.*