



State of North Carolina
Department of Justice
9001 Mail Service Center
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
27699-9001

ROY COOPER
ATTORNEY GENERAL

REPLY TO:
ANNE J. BROWN
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March 9, 2009

CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ronnie Parker
Ronnie's Country Store
280 Hwy. 701 South
P.O. Box 935
Four Oaks, NC 27524

Dear Mr. Parker:

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 processed, stored, offered for sale and sold to the general public. Specifically, the NCDACS investigation found 9 packages of misbranded link pork sausages with no NCDA or USDA mark of inspection or required labeling. In a signed statement dated February 11, 2009, you admitted that you purchased approximately 30 to 35 pounds at a time of fresh link pork sausage from Tim Boswell, Flowers Slaughter House, Sims, N.C. on several occasions over the past four years. You further admitted that you would further process (hang to dry, cut, vacuum pack) the pork sausage and sell it to the general public. These products did not bear any mark of inspection and were thus misbranded. 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne J. Brown".

Anne J. Brown
Special Deputy Attorney General

AJB/alh

cc: Mr. Donald H. Delozier, MPID Director

3/18/09 cc: A.Wade