

PETA exposes CACC's cruelty to chickens in an August 27, 2001 statement

Chickens Have Their Necks Wrung by NYC Animal Control Organization

On June 20, the Center for Animal Care and Control in New York City responded to a fire at a poultry warehouse and removed more than 300 chickens from the premises. Instead of humanely euthanizing the animals with chemical injections using the trained technicians readily available to them, the CACC decided instead to use cervical dislocation, which is a euphemism for neck-wrangling, on most of the chickens in order to kill them. Cervical dislocation is a method not deemed fully "acceptable" by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), which states that "loss of consciousness may not be instantaneous" and that "data suggest that electrical activity in the brain persists for 13 seconds following cervical dislocation," thus allowing for the sensation of extreme pain. Another document entitled "Euthanasia of Poultry," published by the Center for Animal Welfare at the University of California at Davis, states that "if large numbers of birds are to be euthanized, cervical dislocation is not an appropriate method." Chemical injection of barbiturates, on the other hand, is listed as fully acceptable by the AVMA and is the method used for dogs and cats at the CACC.

If there were some birds who were suffering as a result of smoke inhalation, those animals should have been prioritized and euthanized immediately rather than used as an excuse to cervically dislocate the entire group. Please contact the executive director of the CACC and politely ask that a written protocol be developed for the killing of "poultry" that explicitly prohibits the use of cervical dislocation for individual birds, unless the appropriate chemicals are absolutely not available, and for mass killings under any circumstances. Contact:

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