

November 12, 2015

Mark Wardlaw
 Director, Planning and Development Services
 County of San Diego
 5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 310
 San Diego, CA 93123

Via e-mail: Mark.Wardlaw@sdcounty.ca.gov

Dear Mr. Wardlaw,

Thank you for your time. I am writing to you on behalf of PETA and our more than 3 million members and supporters, including more than 31,000 residents of San Diego County, to urge you to take action regarding an apparent repeat and upcoming violation of the San Diego County Zoning Ordinance (SDCZO) involving the violent abuse of animals.

A whistleblower recently informed PETA that Oceanside-based contractor SIMMEC Training Solutions (www.simmectraining.com) is apparently shooting and injuring live pigs during ongoing paramilitary training drills conducted each month on private property at 25279 Creek Hollow Rd., Ramona, CA 92065 (Parcel ID #: 2870323700), which has an A72 (Agricultural) zoning classification that does not permit these activities without a major use permit. **The next course is apparently scheduled for November 18, 2015.**

SIMMEC's apparently illegal land use for medical training is especially troubling because there is no need to mutilate and kill pigs for this purpose. Military studies show that personnel who learn how to perform emergency medical procedures on human simulators instead of by maiming animals are as proficient as—or more so than—those trained using animals.

We urge you to stop this apparently illegal land use scheduled for November 18 and any future dates, levy applicable penalties against SIMMEC for apparent violations of the SDCZO, and reject all applications for a major use permit.

You can contact me directly at ShalinG@peta.org or 757-962-8325. Thank you, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,



Shalin G. Gala
 Senior Laboratory Methods Specialist
 Laboratory Investigations Division

cc: Pam Elias, Chief, Land Use Code Enforcement, County of San Diego

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