

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

Thank you for your laudable efforts on behalf of animals. I'm hoping you can help with the sad recent incident of a carriage horse named Tickles having to be put down after he suffered a "mysterious leg injury" in his stall. Horses do not break their legs without incident, so this tragic death leaves many outstanding questions, including:

- Did Tickles have a history of other health problems?
- How long did he have to wait in pain, and what treatment was attempted before euthanizing him?
- Did cramped living conditions or other inhumane treatment play a role in his death?

Would you ask the Department of Health to investigate and share the results of a necropsy? The investigation needs to be independent, using a veterinarian who isn't paid by the carriage industry. We need to know the truth about how Tickles was treated and if he received the proper care before and after his injury.

I, along with thousands of other New Yorkers who are concerned for the city's horses, eagerly await answers. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Martha Stewart

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