



March 16, 2022

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Garland:

Thank you in advance for your time. I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals—PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters worldwide—to share new information related to our complaint¹ sent to you on September 3, 2021. **Based on the information presented below, we're renewing our request that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) end its use of animals for trauma training, also known as live tissue training (LTT).**

You'll be interested to learn that the USDA just issued an Official Warning² against Tier One Quality Solutions (TQS Corp)³ for violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). TQS Corp's president, John Janota, also runs Assessment and Training Solutions Consulting Corp. (ATSCC),⁴ which in 2019 received \$22,594 from the FBI for maiming animals in deadly LTT exercises.⁵

As we pointed out to you in our earlier letter, ATSCC has previously been cited by the USDA multiple times for violations of the AWA. Furthermore, in 2015, following a PETA complaint, Virginia officials issued a cease-and-desist notice to Janota, stating that he could no longer use his property to conduct LTT exercises since it isn't zoned for such activities.⁶

¹People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. Letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland September 3, 2021. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://www.peta.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2021-09-03-letter-to-ag-merrick-garland.pdf>

²U.S. Department of Agriculture. Notice of Alleged Violation. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/enforcement/tieronequality.pdf>

³State Corporation Commission. Clerk's Information System. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://cis.scc.virginia.gov/EntitySearch/BusinessInformation?businessId=148153&source=FromEntityResult&isSeries%20=%20false>

⁴State Corporation Commission. Clerk's Information System. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://cis.scc.virginia.gov/EntitySearch/BusinessInformation?businessId=60063&source=FromEntityResult&isSeries%20=%20false>

⁵USA Spending. Recipient: Assessment and Training Solutions Consulting Corp. Accessed March 16, 2022. https://www.usaspending.gov/award/CONT_AWD_15F06719P0002656_1549_-NONE_-NONE-

⁶Mather, M. City leaders: Suffolk land cannot be used for military trauma training without proper permits. WTKR.com. November 15, 2015. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://www.wtkr.com/2015/11/25/city-leaders-suffolk-land-cannot-be-used-for-military-trauma-training-without-proper-permits/>

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- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

Nearly 80,000 PETA supporters⁷ have called on the DOJ to sever ties to these animal mutilation drills,⁸ following the lead of the U.S. Coast Guard, which ended this self-proclaimed “abhorrent” practice in 2017,⁹ and the U.S. Department of Defense instruction that requires animal-free simulations to be used “to the maximum extent practicable.”¹⁰

You can contact me at ShalinG@peta.org. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shalin G. Gala". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

Shalin G. Gala
Vice President, International Laboratory Methods
Laboratory Investigations Department

⁷People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. PETA to Department of Justice: End Gruesome Trauma Training on Animals. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://support.peta.org/page/14376/action/1?locale=en-US>

⁸Franzin, R. PETA asks DOJ to stop conducting training that harms animals. *The Hill*. October 30, 2019. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/468249-peta-asks-doj-to-stop-conducting-training-that-involves-harming>

⁹People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. U.S. Coast Guard Ends Use of Animals in Trauma Training. March 18, 2018. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://www.peta.org/blog/coast-guard-commandant-congress-ending-animal-use-right-thing/>

¹⁰United States Department of Defense. Use of Animals in DoD Conducted and Supported Research and Training. March 20, 2019. Accessed March 16, 2022. <https://www.esd.whs.mil/Portals/54/Documents/DD/issuances/dodi/321601p.pdf>