

Douglas E. Sassen
Director of Law
City of Newark

Dear Mr. Sassen:

If someone tore a live dog's head off or tried but failed to break another dog's neck then left the dog to suffer for days, you would prosecute that person, right?

Well, workers at a local egg farm did that to chickens, who feel pain and fear just as acutely as any dog.

But despite such egregious suffering, the only response from the Ohio Department of Agriculture was to arrange an announced visit to the farm by a single inspector, who entered just three of the 16 sheds there and concluded that no agricultural regulations were being violated while he was there.

The Ohio Department of Agriculture's defensive approach underscores the need for prosecutors like you to uphold the state's criminal laws protecting animals, regardless of business interests.

Animals depend on you, Mr. Sassen, and it is your duty to protect their welfare and to enforce the cruelty-to-animals statute passed by Ohio lawmakers.

You can authorize the local humane officer to conduct a criminal investigation—and you have the power to file appropriate charges. Please do both, immediately.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

PETA

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

