

## **TYSON FOODS**

### **Gary Mickelson, Tyson Spokesperson**

Tyson Foods, Inc.

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### **John Tyson, Chair And CEO**

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corporate web mail: [www.tyson.com/Corporate/Contact.aspx](http://www.tyson.com/Corporate/Contact.aspx)

### **Michelle Johns, Tyson Food Service Concierge**

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## **KFC CORPORATION (Customer of Tyson Foods)**

### **KFC Corporate (for comments)**

P.O. Box 725489 • Atlanta, GA 31139

Customer Satisfaction Numbers: (U.S.) 1-800-225-5532; (Canada) 1-866-664-5696

web mail: [www.kfc.com/contact/default.asp](http://www.kfc.com/contact/default.asp)

### **KFC Corporation**

1441 Gardiner Lane • Louisville, Kentucky 40213

ph: 502-874-8300

### **Laurie Schalow, KFC Spokeswoman**

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## **YUM! BRANDS, INC. (Owns KFC and other fast food chains)**

### **David Novak, Chairman, President, and CEO**

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ph: 502-874-8300; fax: 502-874-8790

### **Peter Bassi, Chair, YUM! Restaurants International**

14841 Dallas Parkway • Dallas TX, 75254

### **Yum! Brands Restaurant Support Center**

1900 Colonel Sanders Lane • Louisville, KY 40213

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Ladies and Gentlemen:

I respectfully ask KFC, Yum! Brands and Tyson Foods, to do more to alleviate suffering for millions of chickens raised and slaughtered for human consumption.

Recent allegations depict gratuitous cruelty at Tyson slaughterhouses in Union City, Tennessee and Cumming, Georgia. This is not the first time animal abuse has been documented at a KFC supplier. A 2004 videotape exposed employees of Pilgrim's Pride twisting off the heads of live chickens. At the Moorefield, West Virginia plant, workers spat tobacco into the birds' eyes and mouths, spray-painted faces, and crushed them against walls.

A 2004/2005 investigation at a Heflin, Alabama Tyson slaughterhouse revealed more animal mistreatment. Now, 2007 footage of Tyson kill floors shows birds impaled, beaten, beheaded and violently thrust into shackles.

Supervisors at the Georgia and Tennessee facilities apparently engaged in abuse or were informed about it. One told a worker it was okay to tear off chickens' heads who'd been clumsily shackled by their necks instead of legs. When birds died because their heads and legs became ensnared under a door at the end of a conveyer belt, a supervisor ignored the problem.

Most consumers would be appalled to know automated blades often slice birds' bodies rather than throats. Yet a supervisor cognizant of these mutilations accepted them as a side effect of an imperfect machine. A worker confessed to bashing a chicken against a rail until he shattered the bird's back. A back-up killer was observed knifing birds in their neck areas.

This is blatant violence. I call upon Tyson Foods to fire employees implicated in animal abuse. Please monitor all kills floors and hang areas via video camera and employ your own undercover investigators to report cruelty. At the very least, Tyson, Yum! Brands and KFC ought to advocate "controlled-atmosphere killing," a less agonizing mode of slaughter.

I urge Tyson to enforce animal protection guidelines and KFC to better supervise its suppliers. In fact, KFC and its owner Yum! Brands, should require Tyson and other suppliers to crack down on cruelty.

Until measurable strides are taken to administer these improvements, I will ask friends, family and colleagues to not spend money on your companies.

Thank you,