



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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CHINATOWN POULTRY PROCESSOR ENJOINED IN MANHATTAN
FEDERAL COURT FROM VIOLATING FEDERAL INSPECTION LAWS

PREET BHARARA, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that the United States has filed, and simultaneously settled, a civil lawsuit against NEW KONG YIK, INC., doing business as KONG YIK CORP. ("KONG YIK"), and its owner YI CHUN LIU ("LIU"), seeking an order to stop selling poultry that is not properly inspected by the United States Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service ("USDA"). The settlement agreement, in the form of a consent decree, was approved yesterday by U.S. District Judge NAOMI REICE BUCHWALD, and requires KONG YIK and LIU to cease unlicensed wholesale operations unless and until they have received all necessary regulatory approvals for their operations.

Manhattan U.S. Attorney PREET BHARARA said: "The USDA is charged with safeguarding our nation's vital food supply, and can do so only when food processors are duly inspected before they sell their products. Along with our partners at the USDA, we will remain vigilant about strict compliance with the law."

According to documents filed in Manhattan federal court:

From 2006 to the present, KONG YIK, located in Manhattan's Chinatown, sold uninspected and misbranded ducks to wholesalers and retailers throughout New York City in packaging that incorrectly suggested that the facility where the ducks were prepared was USDA-inspected. The federal Poultry Products Inspection Act ("PPIA") requires all poultry processors who sell their products on a wholesale basis to register with USDA and be subject to regular inspection of their facilities. From 2006 to the present, USDA investigators uncovered at least ten instances in which KONG YIK sold uninspected and misbranded ducks to wholesalers and retailers -- totaling nearly 1,000 ducks weighing some 5,000 pounds. According to the Government's complaint, investigators repeatedly explained the requirements of the PPIA to LIU, and the USDA sent him numerous warning letters, to no avail.

Mr. BHARARA thanked the USDA for their investigative efforts in this case.

This case is being handled by the Office's Civil Division. Assistant U.S. Attorney JEAN-DAVID BARNEA is in charge of the case.

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