

[REDACTED]

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**Subject:** FW: USDA FSIS Petition No. 11-08

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2011 1:24 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** USDA FSIS Petition No. 11-08

Jesse Rodgers  
[REDACTED]

December 8, 2011

FSIS Clerk  
USDA  
FSIS, Docket Clearance Unit, 8 – 164  
Patriots Plaza III  
355 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20024 – 3221

**Subject:** USDA FSIS Petition No. 11-08

Dear Sir/Madam:

I support subject Petition No. 11-08, because I believe in “truth in labeling”.

More importantly, I believe consumers should be able to know with certainty that the meat/poultry products they purchase in the U.S. is accurately labeled and free of vagueness, deception and fraud.

If the Halal meat/poultry product is hand slaughtered, it should be labeled hand slaughtered. Likewise, if the Halal meat/poultry product is mechanical slaughtered, it should be labeled mechanical slaughtered.

Any person who is against USDA FSIS Petition No. 11-08 is supporting fraud, deception and vagueness in labeling.

Sincerely

Jesse Rodgers

**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

**From:** Gaith Abdo  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2011 6:22 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:**

Halal Transactions  
**Subject:** RE: HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

Dearest Brother

I add my voice to yours in rejecting this nonsense about our religion. This topic was a subject of discussion in our mosque and we all came to the same conclusion you have. It is very unfortunate that unqualified and I dare say ignorant people are daring to come up with their own rulings with knowledge. May Allah bless you and save us from this ignorance here and in the other parts of the Muslim world.

Jazaka Allah Kheiran

Gaith Abdo

"share your knowledge, it is a way to achieve immortality"

**From:** burhan huq

**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2011 12:55 PM  
**To:** [fsispetitions@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:fsispetitions@fsis.usda.gov)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Re: HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

و على من اتبع الهدى السلام عليكم معاشر المسلمين  
أما بعد

I will briefly address some of the issues that came in this bizarre e-mail message. I will quote and highlight a statement/paragraph, then i will comment, inshallah.

1- It is important to note, the mechanical slaughter is a controversial method of slaughter which is not accepted as Halal by many Muslim scholars and Halal organizations all around the world. On the other hand, the "Zabiha" or hand slaughter method is universally accepted as Halal by Muslims of all schools of thought and background. Many Muslims believe that in order for them to meet their religious dietary obligation they must eat hand slaughtered Halal/Zabiha Halal meat/poultry only. With today's deceptive labeling practices it is virtually

impossible for the average Muslim consumer to know, with confidence, whether he/she is purchasing hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered meat/poultry products. Certainly this should not be the case in the United States of America.

Comment: There is NO - and i literally mean NO - single evidence from the Kitaab (i.e. the Quraan) and/or the Sunnah of the prophet Muhammad (Sallallaahu Alayihi Wa Sallama) that commands explicitly slaughtering by hand. On the other hand, the authentic Hadeeth states: "فليحد أحدكم شفرته و ليروح ذبيحته" which simply means that the one who is willing to slaughter should sharpen his knife (without mentioning hand or mechanical) and to make his Zabihah (i.e. the to-be-slaughtered animal) rest or relax.

2- Historically, the term "Zabiha" was universally used to mean hand slaughtered. Today most Muslim consumers still believe that the word "Zabiha" means hand slaughtered. However, this is now far from the truth.

Comment: I really DO NOT know from where did the author of this e-mail bring his information from..?! . I am not only one of the meat/poultry consumers in the US, but also one of the Imams who has graduated from the Sharia'h department in Al-Azhar university long time ago, yet i haven't heard about that ever..

Does this brother know that the millions of animals which are slaughtered every year in Saudi Arabia during the days of Hajj are ALL mechanically slaughtered .....and processed..!?

I hope no one will dare to respond to me saying: "Brother; this is all Haram meat or its consuming is CONTROVERSIAL".. Haasha-Lillaah حاشا لله

3- You have Halal certifying organizations who in their "fine print" will tell you that Zabiha meat/poultry can be hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. This interpretation would be news to most Muslim consumers. These same Halal certifying organizations use vague terms in describing the method of slaughter i.e. 1) slaughtered in strict accordance with Islamic/ Sharia law 2) slaughtered in strict accordance with Sunnat-an-Nabi 3) slaughtered in strict accordance with the Zabiha Halal method and 4) slaughtered in strict accordance with Hand Zabiha Halal method, etc. A reasonable person would conclude that all the terms one thru four above are referring to hand slaughtered meat/poultry products. However, this is not the case. Only the Hand Zabiha Halal label would indicate with certainty (hopefully) that the product was hand slaughtered. When most Muslims consumers see the above slaughter descriptions/labeling, they would believe that they are purchasing hand slaughtered meat/poultry, not mechanical.

Comment: You - brother - have gone too far, unfortunately..!!

Who said that the method of slaughtering; whether hand or mechanical, must be clearly mentioned/printed on the sticker/label of the meat/poultry package..? Who said that..? Who said that..? Who said that..?.. Did you not read the Hadeeth of the prophet Muhammad (Sallallaahu Alayihi Wa Sallama) in Sunan Abee Dawood: ذبيحة: ذكر اسم الله او لم يذكر إنه إن ذكر لم يذكر إلا اسم الله which literally means that any Zabihah claimed or attributed to a Muslim is HALAL whether he mentioned the name of Allah on it or not because if he does, he wouldn't mention anything but the name of Allah..

What's wrong with you guys..? Are you just looking for troubles and Fitan..?

Therefore, i may agree with you that the label or the sticker MUST mention that the source of that meat is an Islamic one, the company woner is Muslim, the meat is from a Muslim, or something like that, but, nay, no mention of the hand or mechanical should be mentioned AT ALL.. It's really really RIDICULOUS.... I hope you don't need the company to mention the marital status or the birth date of the one who slaughtered or the brand name or the country of origin of the slaughtering machine.. Come on, brother.. Come on.. Come on!!

4- Again, the issuance, implementation and enforcement of this rule would immediately eliminate the confusion which currently exists in the marketplace.

Comment: Based on the aforementioned comments, I really don't see any confusion, or any reason for confusion, except maybe in the minds of some people who like to argue about confusion "out of lack of knowledge" i.e. جهل "Jahl", just as a personal desire for argument, personal benefit/gain, politics or just showing off..!! Allah only knows their Niyyaat نيات and what's inside their hearts..

5- To minimize the economic impact on the industry i.e. Halal meat/poultry producers and Halal certifying organizations, the USDA will allow the effected companies to exhaust their current inventory of labels before having to transition to the new labels which prominently state whether the product is hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. This transition process should not exceed more than ninety days after the adoption of this rule. In the interim effected companies shall affix individual hand slaughtered/mechanical slaughtered stickers/labels on their meat/poultry products. Once this is done faithful Muslims will be allowed to adhere to their Islamic dietary obligations with confidence

Comment: I totally object that and i will petition the rule if it will become a rule..!! We as Muslims are causing ourselves and our communities and our families and our followers to be in unnecessary troubles and burdens that Almighty Allah عز و جل "Azza Wa Jall" never put us in nor did he put it on us..

I am really sad and disappointed that the vast majority of loud-voiced Imams everywhere in the world now are intruders in the field of Dawah to Islam without a solid background knowledge or formal authentic Islamic education.. Innaa Lillaahi Wa Innaa Ilayihi Raji'oon إنا لله و إنا إليه راجعون

Here's what the prophet Muhammad (Sallallaahu Alayihi Wa Sallama) said in the Hadeeth that was narrated by Abdullaah Ibn Amr Ibn Al-Aass عنه رضي الله تعالى عنه and is reported in Saheeh Al-Bukhaari : سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه و سلم يقول: إن الله إن الله لا يقبض العلم انتزاعا ينتزعه من العباد و لكن يقبض العلم بقبض العلماء حتى إذا لم يبق عالما إتخذ الناس رؤوسا جهالا فسنلوا فأفتوا بغير علم فضلوا و أضلوا

It means that: Verily Allah will not take the knowledge away from people by pulling it suddenly from his servants, rather He will take it away by causing the true scholars (knowledgeable Ulamaa' العلماء) to die, until when He didn't leave behind any true Aalim عالم the people will assign ignorant leaders who when asked they will give Fatwa or verdicts i.e. فتوى without having the necessary knowledge for that.. Therefore, they (i.e. the ignorant "fake Ulamaa" leaders) have gone misguided and they've misguided other people..

P.S. Being a known Imam in my locality, I intentionally masked my name because of the negative attitudes and personal animosity that we - the Muslims - always used to adopt against each other in case we disagree..

I ask Almighty Allaah to forgive me if i am wrong and to bring the Hikmah and knowledge to our disagreeing brothers if i was right.. Ameen..

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Abdul-Aziz Shaheed

**Date:** December 30, 2011 7:43:24 AM EST

**To**

**Subject:** HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

# HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

## Petition For Rulemaking Under 9CFR Part 392

### Executive Summary

The issuance of this rule is to eliminate the confusion which currently exist in the marketplace, with respect to whether Halal/Zabiha Halal meat/poultry products are hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. The intent is not to favor one method over the other i.e., hand slaughter over mechanical slaughter, but rather to insure accurate, honest and non-deceptive labeling of the Halal/Zabiha Halal meat/poultry products. Simply put, if the product is hand slaughtered the label should "prominently" state hand slaughtered. Similarly, if the product is mechanical slaughtered the label should "prominently" state mechanical slaughtered.

It is important to note, the mechanical slaughter is a controversial method of slaughter which is not accepted as Halal by many Muslim scholars and Halal organizations all around the world. On the other hand, the "Zabiha" or hand slaughter method is universally accepted as Halal by Muslims of all schools of thought and background. Many Muslims believe that in order for them to meet their religious dietary obligation they must eat hand slaughtered Halal/Zabiha Halal meat/poultry only. With today's deceptive labeling practices it is virtually impossible for the average Muslim consumer to know, with confidence, whether he/she is purchasing hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered meat/poultry products. Certainly this should not be the case in the United States of America.

Historically, the term "Zabiha" was universally used to mean hand slaughtered. Today most Muslim consumers still believe that the word "Zabiha" means hand slaughtered. However, this is now far from the truth. You have Halal certifying organizations who in their "fine print" will tell you that Zabiha meat/poultry can be hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. This interpretation would be news to most Muslim consumers. These same Halal certifying organizations use vague terms in describing the method of slaughter i.e. 1) slaughtered in strict accordance with Islamic/ Sharia law 2) slaughtered in strict accordance with Sunnat-an-Nabi 3) slaughtered in strict accordance with the Zabiha Halal method and 4) slaughtered in strict accordance with Hand Zabiha Halal method, etc. A reasonable person would conclude that all the terms one thru four above are referring to hand slaughtered meat/poultry products. However, this is not the case. Only the Hand Zabiha Halal label would indicate with certainty (hopefully) that the product was hand slaughtered. When most Muslims consumers see the above slaughter descriptions/labeling, they would believe that they are purchasing hand slaughtered meat/poultry, not mechanical.

The good news is that the USDA can fix this problem with no/nominal economic impact to the USDA or to the Halal meat/poultry industry. Again, the issuance, implementation and enforcement of this rule would immediately eliminate the confusion which currently exists in the marketplace. You don't need any interpretations or analysis from Muslim religious scholars, Imams, Hafizs or other religious experts. All that's needed is for Halal meat/poultry producers and Halal certifying organizations to accurately and honestly label the products as hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. This kind of label honesty, accuracy and transparency is consistent with the intent and spirit of all that USDA FSIS does.

To minimize the economic impact on the industry i.e. Halal meat/poultry producers and Halal certifying organizations, the USDA will allow the effected companies to exhaust their current inventory of labels before having to transition to the new labels which prominently state whether the product is hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. This transition process should not exceed more than ninety days after the adoption of this rule. In the interim effected companies shall affix individual hand slaughtered/mechanical slaughtered stickers/labels on their meat/poultry products. Once this is done faithful Muslims will be allowed to adhere to their Islamic dietary obligations with confidence

When submitting a comment, please identify the petition number in the subject line.

**Send Comments To: [fsispetitions@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:fsispetitions@fsis.usda.gov)**

**Reference petition 11-08**

[REDACTED]  
**From:**  
**Subject:**

FSIS Petitions  
FW:

**From:** Russell Bright\_Ij [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 29, 2011 10:09 AM

**To:** FSIS Petitions

**Subject:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: "11-08"

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**From:** Yusuf [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2012 11:23 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** "11-08"

To Whom it May Concern:

We urge you to eliminate the confusion which currently exists in the marketplace with respect to whether Halal/Zabiha Halal meat/Poultry products are HAND slaughtered or Mechanical Slaughtered.

Mr. and Mrs. Yusuf Abdul-Hakeem, Ms. Khadijah Abdul-Hakeem

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: Halal slaughter

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**From:** Mary Clark [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 29, 2011 7:30 AM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Halal slaughter

ASA.,  
I definitely support Petition: 11-08. To assure that I am buying, consuming properly slaughtered Zabiha Halal meats/ poultry products. These products should be labels as such. " Hand slaughtered or mechanically slaughtered ". Muslims / non-Muslims have a right to know what they a purchasing.  
ASA.,  
Maryam Clark

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: Petition No. 11-08

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**From:** Duane Bailey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 13, 2011 1:18 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** Petition No. 11-08

I support USDA Petition 11-08, it's an idea whose time has come. We need accurate food handling/preparation information.

Regards,

Duane Bailey

[REDACTED]

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**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: Petition No. 11-08

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**From:** Gloria Thomas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 14, 2011 5:37 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Petition No. 11-08

Labeling a meat or poultry product as hand slaughtered is a simple and cost effective way to ensure truthfulness and accuracy in distinguishing hand slaughtered meat and poultry from mechanical prepared meat and poultry. Such a standard limits confusion for the consumer who has a need to know whether the meat or poultry product is hand slaughtered or not.

**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: Zabiha

-----Original Message-----

**From:**  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 27, 2011 9:09 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions;

**Subject:** Zabiha

Please make the full distinction between Hand Slaughtered and Mechanically Slaughtered meat and poultry.

Thank You,  
Arnold Clark

**From:** FSIS Petitions  
**Subject:** FW: HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

**From:** burhan huq [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2011 12:55 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]; FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: HOW TO STOP HALAL FRAUD IN THE UNITED STATES!

يهدل اعبتا نم ىل ع و نيمل سل ا رشاعم مكيل ع م ال سل ا  
دعب ام

I will briefly address some of the issues that came in this bizarre e-mail message. I will quote and highlight a statement/paragraph, then i will comment, inshallah.

1- It is important to note, the mechanical slaughter is a controversial method of slaughter which is not accepted as Halal by many Muslim scholars and Halal organizations all around the world. On the other hand, the "Zabiha" or hand slaughter method is universally accepted as Halal by Muslims of all schools of thought and background. Many Muslims believe that in order for them to meet their religious dietary obligation they must eat hand slaughtered Halal/Zabiha Halal meat/poultry only. With today's deceptive labeling practices it is virtually impossible for the average Muslim consumer to know, with confidence, whether he/she is purchasing hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered meat/poultry products. Certainly this should not be the case in the United States of America.

Comment: There is NO - and i literally mean NO - single evidence from the Kitaab (i.e. the Quraan) and/or the Sunnah of the prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallama) that commands explicitly slaughtering by hand. On the other hand, the authentic Hadeeth states: "هت ح ي ب ذ ح ر ي ل و هت ر ف ش م ك د ح ا د ح ي ل ف" which simply means that the one who is willing to slaughter should sharpen his knife (without mentioning hand or mechanical) and to make his Zabihah (i.e. the to-be-slaughtered animal) rest or relax.

2- Historically, the term "Zabiha" was universally used to mean hand slaughtered. Today most Muslim consumers still believe that the word "Zabiha" means hand slaughtered. However, this is now far from the truth.

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I hope no one will dare to respond to me saying: "Brother; this is all Haram meat or its consuming is CONTROVERSIAL".. Haasha-Lillaah مل اشاح

3- You have Halal certifying organizations who in their "fine print" will tell you that Zabiha meat/poultry can be hand slaughtered or mechanical slaughtered. This interpretation would be news to most Muslim consumers. These same Halal certifying organizations use vague terms in describing the method of slaughter i.e. 1) slaughtered in strict accordance with Islamic/ Sharia law 2) slaughtered in strict accordance with Sunnat-an-Nabi 3) slaughtered in strict accordance with the Zabiha Halal method and 4) slaughtered in strict accordance with Hand Zabiha Halal method, etc. A reasonable person would conclude that all the terms one thru four above are referring to hand slaughtered meat/poultry products. However, this is not the case. Only the Hand Zabiha Halal label would indicate with certainty (hopefully) that the product was hand slaughtered. When most Muslims consumers see the above slaughter descriptions/labeling, they would believe that they are purchasing hand slaughtered meat/poultry, not mechanical.

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Send Comments To: [fsispetitions@fsis.usda.gov](mailto:fsispetitions@fsis.usda.gov)

Reference petition 11-08

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When submitting a comment, please identify the petition number in the subject line.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 30, 2012 6:34 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** petition 11-08

I approve Petition 11-08 .Truthfullness sh0uld be accessable to all consumers.

Best Regards,  
Abdul- Aziz Shaheed

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2012 3:55 PM  
**To:** FSIS Petitions  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]

RE: Petition 11-08

To Whom It May concern:

I support this Petition [11-08] and the transparency it will provide in the slaughtering of Halal meats. It will give Muslim consumers a clear choice.

Thank you.

Eilene Lifsey (Consumer)