

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE )  
COUNCIL, INC.; CENTER FOR SCIENCE )  
IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST; FOOD )  
ANIMAL CONCERNS TRUST; PUBLIC )  
CITIZEN, INC.; and UNION OF )  
CONCERNED SCIENTISTS, INC., )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG )  
ADMINISTRATION; MARGARET )  
HAMBURG, in her official capacity as )  
Commissioner, United States Food and Drug )  
Administration; CENTER FOR )  
VETERINARY MEDICINE; BERNADETTE )  
DUNHAM, in her official capacity as )  
Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine; )  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF )  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; and )  
KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, in her official )  
capacity as Secretary, United States )  
Department of Health and Human Services, )

Defendants. )

11 CIV 3562 (THK)  
ECF Case

**DECLARATION OF  
ILANA SLAFF-GALATAN**

I, Ilana Slaff-Galatan, declare as follows:

1. I am a member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), and have been for at least ten years.

2. I work as a psychiatrist in Queens, New York. I live in Queens with my husband and two daughters. My daughters are eleven and nine years old.

3. My family and I eat meat at home three or four times a week. We eat it for dinner and on Saturdays for lunch. We also eat meat in restaurants occasionally, but only about once a month.

4. I used to buy organic meat regularly, but I haven't bought it in years because I can't afford it. I stopped buying organic meat when my youngest daughter was diagnosed with autism. Because her therapy is costly, we had to cut organic meat out of our budget. Now I buy conventional chicken and beef at a kosher supermarket. I pay about \$2.00 less per pound for meat that is not certified organic.

5. I've learned about the way meat is produced from reading books like *Fast Food Nation* and watching movies like *Food Inc.* I understand that unless you buy free-range or organic meat, the animals are raised in small coops and given antibiotics to prevent disease. From what I've learned, I assume that the chicken and beef I buy comes from animals that were fed antibiotics.

6. I have learned from reading *Nutrition Action*, CSPI's magazine, that the use of antibiotics in livestock is contributing to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. I understand that those bacteria can move through the environment and infect people. As a doctor, I know that drug-resistant infections can be very dangerous and even fatal. I did my internship at New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens about fifteen years ago, and I remember treating a patient with an antibiotic-resistant bacterial infection. I had to prescribe two different antibiotics to treat the infection.

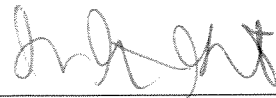
7. If I could afford to buy organic meat, I would, because I know about the dangers of drug-resistant bacteria in food. People die from foodborne bacterial infections from meat and even from vegetables. I worry about my daughters being exposed to drug-resistant bacteria in

conventional meat. But I also know that even if I only gave them organic meat, they would still be at risk. The drug-resistant bacteria developing on factory farms would still be in the environment, and my daughters could be exposed to it in other ways. I would feel much better if the government made it illegal to feed antibiotics to healthy animals.

8. I am very frustrated by the overuse of antibiotics in livestock. It is in stark contrast to the way antibiotics are used in human medicine. My daughter was once very sick with a high fever, but the doctors refused to prescribe antibiotics for a week because they thought her infection might be viral. It turned out she had bacterial pneumonia, but she had to wait a week until it was diagnosed and we could start treating it. Because of the guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatrics, doctors try to be judicious about their use of antibiotics, and they are conservative in prescribing them. But why should my daughter suffer, when we are giving antibiotics out freely to farm animals? If that practice were discontinued, the risk of contracting drug-resistant infections would go down, and doctors wouldn't have to be so conservative in treating sick people.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Executed on September 28, 2011, at New York City, New York.



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Ilana Slaff-Galatan