



OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT —
AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

July 26, 2019

Dear 4-H Community Member,

Unfortunately, I am contacting you today with some difficult news. It has come to the attention of University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) that a former 4-H adult volunteer, James Corneliussen, was recently arrested on charges of committing lewd or lascivious acts with a minor. Mr. Corneliussen has been terminated from participating in any 4-H activities and is no longer affiliated with the program.

In May 2019, the 4-H program received information about Mr. Corneliussen's inappropriate conduct with a 4-H youth. We immediately shared this information with the Glenn County Sheriff's office and, quickly thereafter, suspended and terminated Mr. Corneliussen from all 4-H activities. We have cooperated with the Glenn County Sheriff's office and will continue to do so in any way that we can. This remains an active law enforcement investigation, and we have not received additional information. Mr. Corneliussen has been a 4-H volunteer in Glenn County for about 15 years, in a variety of projects, including swine, woodworking, leathercraft, and 4-H summer camp. If you have any information or concerns of inappropriate or criminal behavior that would be pertinent to his association with 4-H, I encourage you to contact us or law enforcement as noted below.

Youth protection is our highest priority, and we take this information and the implications very seriously. We bring this to your attention to let you know how we have responded and what we are doing to offer resources to support you and your family. We want to make sure that you are aware of UC ANR's existing youth protection policies and procedures. These include a screening process with a criminal background check for registered adult volunteers, training for staff and volunteers on youth protection and recognizing and reporting signs of abuse, and supervision policies designed to prohibit one-on-one interactions between youth and adults at all 4-H activities.

To ensure that our policies continue to support a culture of safety, we have partnered with Praesidium, a national leader in abuse risk management, to complete a comprehensive organizational review of UC 4-H policies and procedures in this area. This review will aid UC ANR in further strengthening existing policies, procedures, and general operations for all 4-H programs.

We are notifying you because our records indicate that you volunteered and/or your child/children have been enrolled in the Glenn County 4-H program. I recognize that a letter is an impersonal way of sharing this difficult news, but it is important to us that you hear from the UC ANR 4-H Youth Development Program directly.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the information in this letter, you can use the resources listed below, contact law enforcement, or reach out to us directly.

- Resources for Talking to Youth: <http://website.praesidiuminc.com/wp/uc-4h/>
- For more information on talking with your kids or to receive counseling services call: 877-415-6423
- To report suspicions of abuse or similar concerns or interactions with James Corneliusen, contact Glenn County Assistant District Attorney Ruby Neumann at 530-934-6525.
- For information specific to Glenn County 4-H, contact Betsy Karle, UCCE Glenn County Director at 530-865-1107
- For matters of UC ANR or 4-H policy, contact Brian Oatman, UC ANR Director of Risk & Safety at 530-750-1264

Please know that I understand the gravity of the information I am sharing and how concerning this will be to you. We are committed to truth, transparency, and providing a safe and healthy experience for your children.

Sincerely,



Glenda Humiston

Vice President

Agriculture and Natural Resources