

## Tyson-Contracted Chicken Facility Owner and Manager Face Criminal Animal Cruelty Charges

*Jetersville, VA, August 2, 2023* – The owner and the manager of a Tyson-contracted chicken facility have been charged with eight counts each of criminal animal cruelty, based on an [undercover investigation](#) conducted by the animal advocacy organization Animal Outlook. The investigation, conducted at Jannat Farm in Virginia, uncovered pervasive, systemic cruelty. Tyson had contracted with the facility for at least seven years.

“Cruelty charges against a facility’s owner and manager show that cruelty comes from the top down,” said Jareb Gleckel, legal counsel for Animal Outlook. “Cruelty in animal agriculture is not a story of isolated acts. It is widespread abuse and cruel conditions and practices that are endemic to the industry. It’s imperative to stop eating animals to refuse to support this inherently cruel industry.”

Gleckel added, “While charging facility owners and managers is a big step forward, we maintain that Tyson is also legally responsible for the cruelty we uncovered, as laid out in our [detailed memorandum of law](#).”

[Animal Outlook’s investigation](#), conducted last fall at Jannat Farm in Virginia, documented specific acts of violence, such as workers kicking and throwing birds, and widespread abysmal conditions. Footage shows ill, injured, and deformed birds left to suffer, sometimes for days; food and water deprivation; bug-infested feed and rat corpses; and violations of biosecurity protocols amidst a bird flu outbreak. Water lines were too high for many young birds to reach, and they can be seen jumping helplessly for water. Food ran out in the chicken houses multiple times. Dead chickens were left to decay in and around feed trays and inside the chicken houses.

Tyson is the largest chicken company in the United States and markets itself as upholding a “[moral and ethical obligation](#)” of “proper animal handling” and claims that “[c]aring about

[animals is inherent to who \[Tyson is\] as a company.](#)” It claims to have “[zero tolerance for animal abuse](#),” and purports to have an [Animal Welfare Advisory Panel](#) and programs, including audits, to enforce its supposed commitment to the humane treatment of animals. Yet, Animal Outlook has exposed Tyson-contracted facilities twice before, in [2016](#) and [2017](#), and other animal protection organizations have also conducted exposés of animal cruelty on Tyson-contracted facilities.

[Learn more about Animal Outlook’s undercover investigation at Jannat Farm here.](#)

## **ABOUT ANIMAL OUTLOOK**

[Animal Outlook](#) is a national nonprofit 501(c)(3) animal advocacy organization based in Washington, DC, and Los Angeles, CA. It is strategically challenging animal agribusiness through undercover investigations, legal advocacy, corporate and food system reform, and disseminating information about the many harms of animal agriculture, empowering everyone to choose vegan. <https://animaloutlook.org/>

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