



4 May 1993

Eric Sakach  
Investigator  
Humane Society of the United States  
P. O. Box 417220  
Sacramento, CA 95841

Dear Mr. Sakach:

Over the years we have had a number of queries about Jefferson's connection with cockfighting. Our answer has always been that we have found nothing in the documentary record to indicate that Jefferson either attended cockfights or raised fighting cocks. His interest in raising poultry was evidently just for culinary purposes.

Although it is always much harder to disprove something than to prove it, I am confident that if Jefferson had had any interest in cockfighting I would have come across some reference to it in my twenty-five years of working with his documentary archive. Our former Director spent over thirty years studying Jefferson and also found no references to cockfighting.

Sincerely,

Lucia C. Stanton  
Director of Research