

# DIRECT ACTION EVERYWHERE

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## Monday Night Football Disrupted By Activists on Field, Highlighting “Landmark” Piglet Rescuer Trial That Began Today

*Two men face 10+ years in prison in a case decried by legal experts as unconstitutional retaliation for exposing abusive conditions*

[PHOTOS/VIDEO](#)  
[INVESTIGATIVE CASE REPORT](#)

*(Credit: Direct Action Everywhere)*



*Fluty and Taylor Monday before the game (Credit: Direct Action Everywhere)*

**OCTOBER 4, SANTA CLARA, CA** - Two Bay Area residents ran onto the field at separate points during the second quarter of the Rams/49ers Monday Night Football game. Allison Fluty and Alex Taylor ran across the field holding

up red smoke flares and wearing shirts with "[RIGHTTORESCUE.COM](http://RIGHTTORESCUE.COM)" text, before being removed by event security.

Both protesters were cited and released from custody Monday night.

Discussing their plans for the stunt before the game, the pair say they just want to stand up for their friends. In this case, those friends come in both human and non-human varieties.

Organized by the grassroots animal rights network [Direct Action Everywhere \(DxE\)](#), the protest sought to highlight a trial of two factory farm whistleblowers which began Monday. DxE calls it a landmark trial for animal rights, food justice and free speech, and more broadly, on the entire animal agricultural industry, which DxE says is inherently abusive and exploitative.

DxE investigators Paul Darwin Picklesimer and Wayne Hsiung rescued two sick piglets from Circle Four and documented **dead and diseased piglets languishing in their mother's feces and injured adult pigs physically unable to stand** ([VIDEO](#)). Picklesimer and Hsiung were subsequently [charged with multiple felonies](#) following [FBI raids of farm animal sanctuaries in a nationwide "pig hunt."](#)

DxE says the case typifies a troubling pattern of repression via a justice system that has been weaponized by powerful political interests such as Smithfield, and is at odds with the public's interest in transparency and due process.

A similar protest happened during the season-opening Bills-Rams game last month, when two DxE activists also ran onto the field - same smoke flares, same shirts. One of the women, Emek Echo, sustained severe head trauma when she was tackled, which she says left her dazed and unable to stand when security. Video of the protest shows her [head hitting the turf](#), before security carried her off, [her legs dragging](#). Emek says she is considering her legal options.

"Smithfield will do anything to hide its abuses from the public because they know that if people saw what is happening inside factory farms, they would be horrified. They are going to great lengths to throw two of my friends in prison for years simply for investigating their farms and rescuing sick and dying piglets," said Taylor. "I took action to raise awareness about the ongoing Smithfield trial."

DxE says Smithfield, a subsidiary of the Chinese conglomerate WH Group, routinely compromises worker safety, [public health](#) and animal welfare. DxE previously released [investigations](#) of Smithfield factory farms in California, Utah and North Carolina.

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*Investigators with [Direct Action Everywhere \(DxE\)](#) enter farms, slaughterhouses, and other agricultural facilities to document abuses, and to rescue sick and injured animals. DxE's investigatory work has been featured in [The New York Times](#), [ABC Nightline](#), [Current Affairs](#) and a [brutal mass pig killing exposé](#). DxE activists have been [subjected to FBI raids](#) and [felony prosecutions](#) for their investigative work. The group led the 2019 grassroots effort to [ban fur products in California](#) and the 2021 effort to transition Berkeley, California city purchases to [100% plant based foods](#). Visit DxE on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and at [directactioneverywhere.com](http://directactioneverywhere.com).*

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