

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

April Cicchelli, an individual (AWA-D **22-J-0042**),  
and Ryan Cicchelli, an individual (AWA-D **22-J-0044**),  
both doing business as Second Chance Rescue and Exotics,

Petitioners.

**Decision and Order Issued Orally on May 17, 2022**

Appearances:

Petitioner April Cicchelli and Petitioner Ryan Cicchelli, Michigan, each representing herself or himself (appearing *pro se*); and

John V. Rodriguez, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, United States Department of Agriculture, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250-1400, representing the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (“APHIS” or Respondent).

*Before Jill S. Clifton, Administrative Law Judge*

17 Order: The Petitioners, April Cicchelli, and Ryan  
18 Cicchelli, and their agents, employees, successors, and  
19 designs[sic] *[assigns]*, directly or indirectly, through  
20 any corporate or other device, are ordered to cease and  
21 desist from violations of the Animal Welfare Act and the  
22 regulations. The denial as expressed in the denial  
23 letter dated March 14, 2022, is upheld and Petitioners  
24 may reapply for any changes to their Animal Welfare Act  
25 license one year from the date this decision and order

Heritage Reporting Corporation  
(202) 628-4888

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becomes final and effective.

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Ryan Cicchelli, an individual (AWA-D **22-J-0044**),  
both doing business as Second Chance Rescue and Exotics,

Petitioners.

**One Year Before Reapplying Began May 17, 2022 and Ends May 17, 2023**

Appearances:


Petitioner April Cicchelli and Petitioner Ryan Cicchelli, Michigan, each representing herself or himself (appearing *pro se*); and

John V. Rodriguez, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, United States Department of Agriculture, South Building, 1400 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250-1400, representing the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (“APHIS” or Respondent).

1. On May 17, 2022, I, Judge Jill S. Clifton, upheld the March 14, 2022 APHIS denial of Petitioners’ Animal Welfare Act relicensure application that requested to add species (felids) and to add a location (Petitioners’ residence). APHIS’s March 14, 2022 denial letter was issued by the Assistant Deputy Administrator, Animal Care, APHIS, USDA, and is Government’s Exhibit 12 and was attached to Petitioners’ Petition.
2. On May 17, 2022, I ordered that the Petitioners may reapply for Animal Welfare Act relicensing one year from when my Decision and Order (issued orally, from the bench) becomes final and effective. Petitioners advised they won’t be appealing, in an email dated May 23, 2022 from Petitioner April Cicchelli to Erin Hoagland and Jill Clifton, both with the USDA Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of Administrative Law Judges.
3. Consequently, to clarify the beginning and end of the one year period of waiting, I pronounce that my Decision and Order is final and effective as of May 17, 2022; and that the one year that Petitioners must wait to reapply to relicensure, runs from **May 17, 2022** through **May 17, 2023**.

Copies of this clarification “One Year Before Reapplying Began May 17, 2022 and Ends May 17, 2023” shall be sent by the Hearing Clerk to each of the parties.

Signed at Washington, D.C. this 25th day of May 2022

  
*Jill S. Clifton*  
Digitally signed  
by JILL CLIFTON  
Date: 2022.05.25  
16:32:52 -04'00'

Jill S. Clifton  
Administrative Law Judge

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