



JUL 18 2008

FL Honda animal care

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. 08-160	Date Entered 04/29/08	Received By T Brasfield (ERO)
Referred To W. Striplin, ACI; D. Watkins, SACS	Reply Due	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name LIEBLING FAMILY CIRCUS		Customer/License/Registration No. 3203/58-C-0288	
Address 1432 ADAIR RD			
City Davenport	State FL	Zip 33836	Phone No (863) 206-5067

Complainant

Name		Organization PETA	
Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone No./Email address @peta.org

How was complaint received? email

Forward response to FOIA: Yes No

Details of Complaint: Elephant constantly chained, chains have no padding, chained by two legs on one side which restricts movement more so than if chained by alternate front and back legs.

Results: Observed the circus on 06-16-08 before and during the elephant rides for 1 hour 45 minutes unannounced until the public went into the show. Conducted an inspection and all was in compliance see inspection report.

OKAY TO CLOSE BASED ON INSPECTION REPORT DATED 16 JUNE 2008- TT

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR
John J. Lies, ACI

DATE
17-Jun-08

REVIEWED BY
Tanya Tims

DATE
17-Jun-08

Ta. Tims

copy 08-160
(for FL mensa)

JUL 18 2008



Connie R
Morris/CO/APHIS/USDA
04/14/2008 05:57 PM

To: Linda L Kovar/CO/APHIS/USDA@USDA
cc
bcc
Subject: Davenport??

For Follow Up: Urgent Priority. Follow up on 04/15/2008 at 09:13 AM

----- Forwarded by Connie R Morris/CO/APHIS/USDA on 04/14/2008 03:56 PM -----



Joseph A
Nelson/NC/APHIS/USDA
04/14/2008 02:04 PM

To: Tony Brasfield/NC/APHIS/USDA@USDA
cc: Connie R Morris/CO/APHIS/USDA@USDA
Subject

Tony,

Please log and send to WR with a copy of itinerary for 58-C-0288 (Liebel)

Joe.

04/14/2008 03:14 PM

To: <Betty.J.Goldentyer@aphis.usda.gov>
cc: "Teresa Marshall" <teresam@peta.org>, <Robert.M.Gibbens@aphis.usda.gov>,
<Chester.A.Gipscri@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: Concerns regarding elephant traveling with circus
ct

April 14, 2008

Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer
USDA Eastern Region
900 Main Campus Dr., Ste. 200
Unit 3040
Raleigh, NC 27606

1 page via e-mail with photos

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

PETA has received the attached photos from a complainant. We suspect this

JUL 18 2008

might be Nosey with the Liebel Family Circus (59-C-0288). The circus was performing in Guadalupe, Arizona, over the weekend under the name, "Kingford Productions - Circo Latino Americano de las Estrella."

The complainant stopped by the circus several times over the weekend, and the elephant was always chained. As you can see in the photos, the chains have absolutely no padding. The elephant is also chained by two legs on one side instead of being chained on an alternate front leg and rear leg to allow more freedom of movement.

Please note that PETA filed a similar complaint regarding shackles that were not padded in September 2005. Please ensure that this elephant is provided with padded chains and given adequate space and exercise.

Please inform me of the USDA's findings in this case. I can be reached at _____ Thank you for your attention to this matter

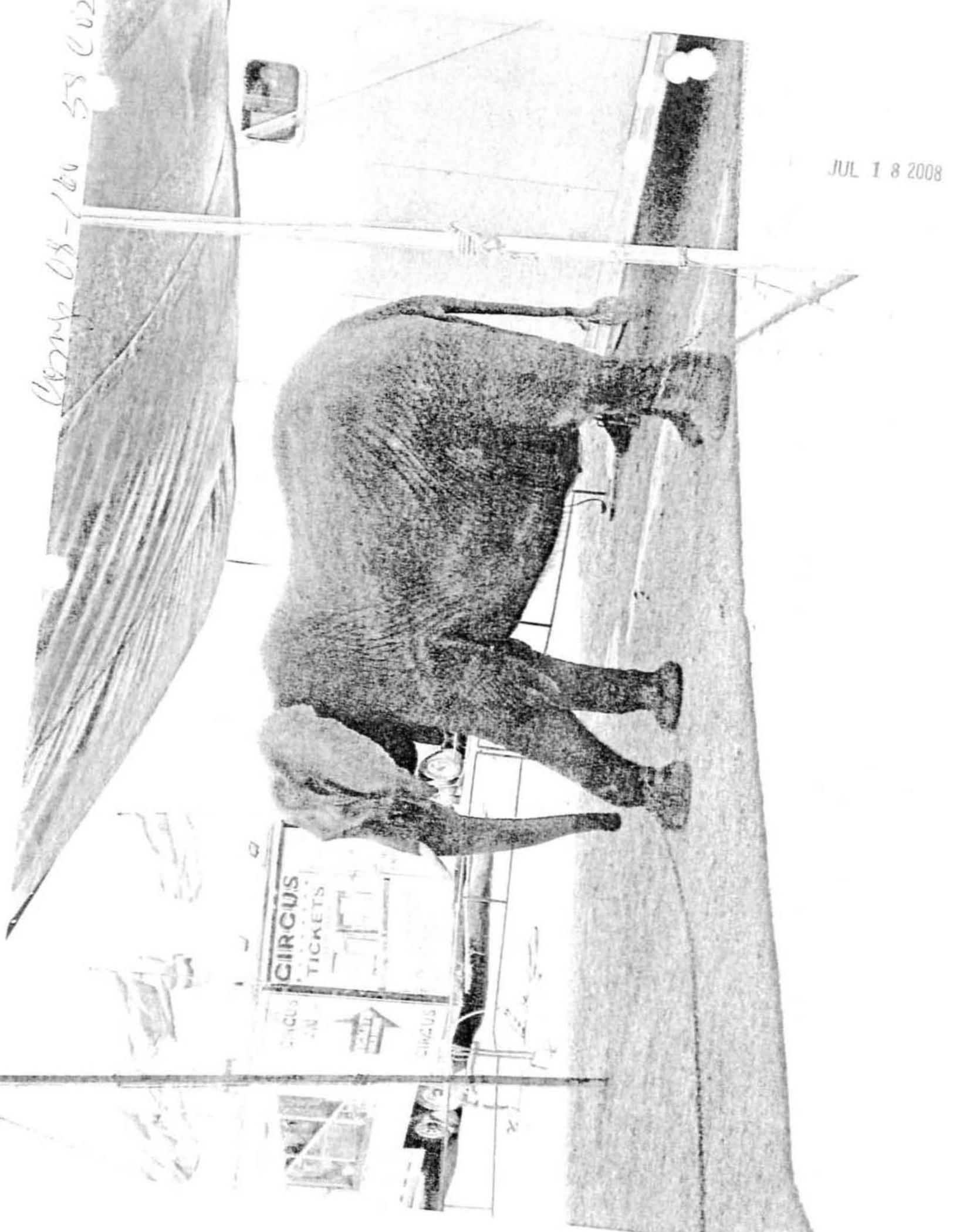
Sincerely,



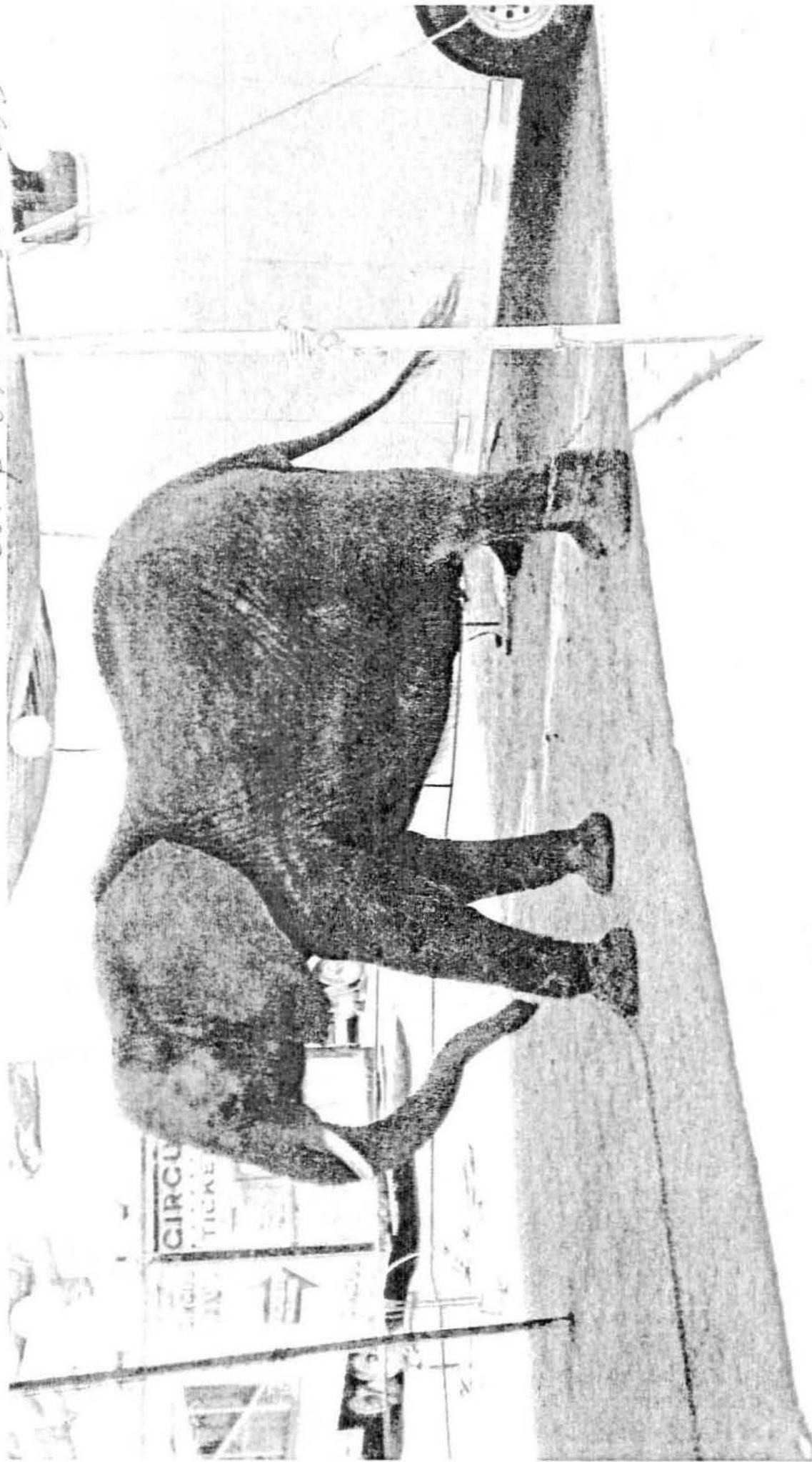
Captive Animals Rescue & Enforcement e1.jpg e2.jpg e3.jpg e4.jpg

Camp 08-160 58 C02

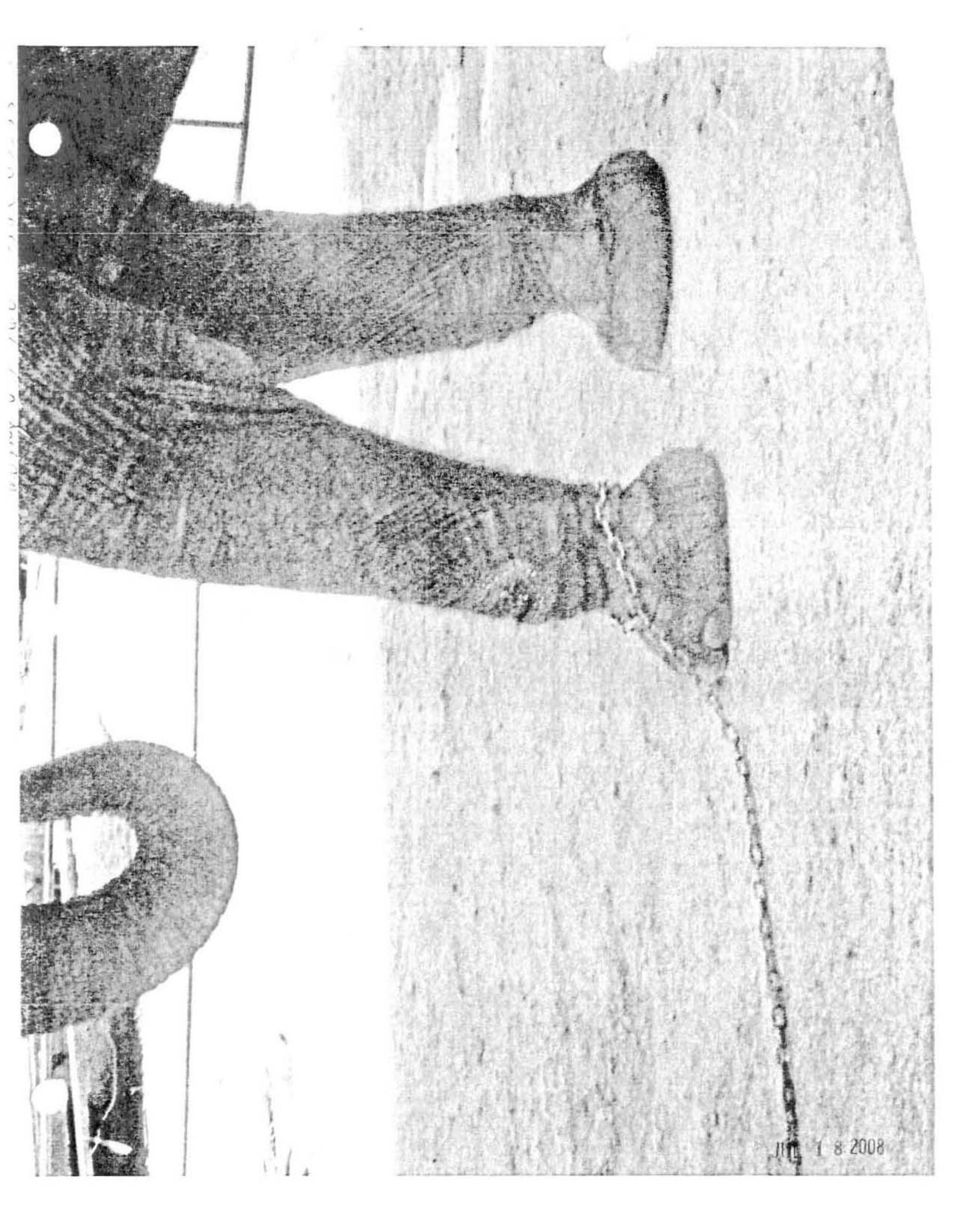
JUL 18 2008



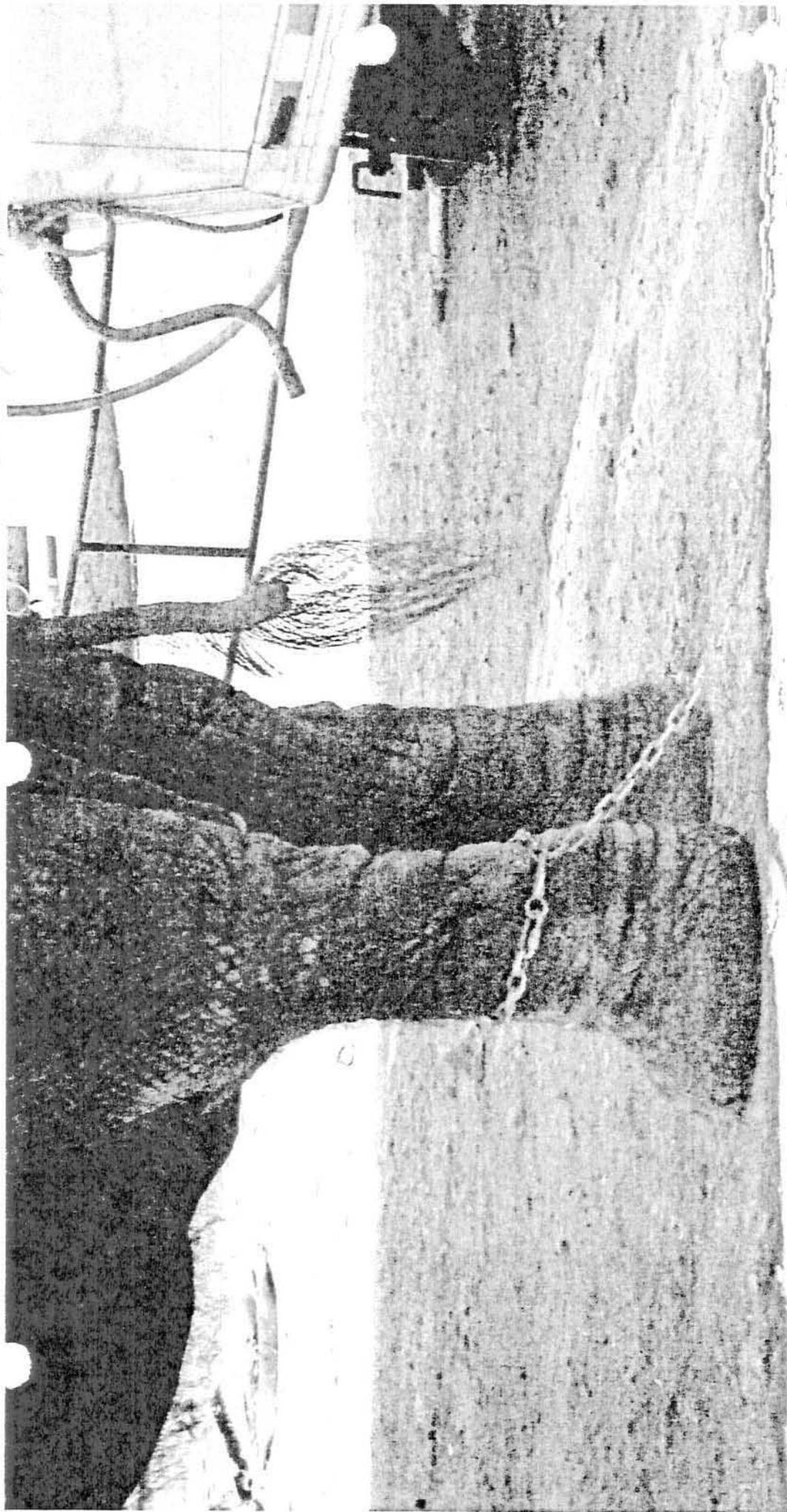
SKETCHES
MILCO
SUNON



JUL 18 2008



copy 07-06 586-023



JUL 18 2008

JUL 18 2008



Linda L
Kovar/CO/APHIS/USDA
04/30/2008 08:55 AM

To
cc
bcc

Subject comp 08-160 Liebling Family Circus 58-C-0288, cust #3203

April 29, 2008



Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your email of April 14, 2008, concerning the elephant with the Liebel Family Circus (58-C-0288). This complaint has been issued number 08-160. If you wish to know the results of our findings, you must send a request, in writing to our Freedom of Information Act office. Please refer to the above issued number.

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways --

1. Email: foia.officer@aphis.usda.gov
2. Fax: 301-734-5941
3. US Mail: USDA, APHIS, FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20723

Animal Care is the division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that is responsible for the enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. The Act provides minimum standards for the humane care and use of animals at USDA licensed or registered facilities.

Animal Care inspectors conduct routine unannounced inspections at all USDA licensed and registered facilities to ensure that they are meeting or exceeding these minimum standards. Our inspectors also conduct searches for unlicensed facilities conducting regulated activities. We perform inspections and searches when necessary in response to valid concerns and complaints received from the public to ensure the well-being of the animals and compliance with the law. If violations are found, enforcement action appropriate for the circumstances will be initiated.

Please be assured that we will look into your concerns and take appropriate action if necessary.

Thank you for your interest in the welfare of these animals.

Sincerely,

Robert Gibbens, DVM
Director, Western Region
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

.....
Linda L. Kovar, ILA
(970) 494-7463

[Redacted]
>
04/14/2008 03:14 PM

To <Betty.J.Goldentyer@aphis.usda.gov>
cc "Teresa Marshall" <teresam@peta.org>, <Robert.M.Gibbens@aphis.usda.gov>

JUL 18 2008

<Chester.A.Gipson@aphis.usda.gov>
Subje Concerns regarding elephant traveling with circus
ct

April 14, 2008

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USDA Eastern Region
920 Main Campus Dr., Ste. 200
Unit 3040
Raleigh, NC 27605

1 page via e-mail with photos

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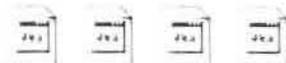
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Please inform me of the USDA's findings in this case. I can be reached at [redacted]. Thank you for your attention to this matter

Sincerely,



Captive Animals Rescue & Enforcement e1.pg e2.pg e3.pg e4.pg

MAY 18 2008



Linda L
Kovar/CO/APHIS/USDA
05/28/2008 10:03 AM

To Carol G Porter/FL/APHIS/USDA@USDA
cc Gregory S Gaj/FL/APHIS/USDA@USDA
bcc
Subject Re: Complaints #08-160 & #08-160A. Liebling Circus 3203

Carol,

I checked with Connie to see who needs to close out these complaints since they involved an ERO licensee, yet the incidents were in Arizona. She said that once you have a TRA inspection (by either an ER or an WR inspector) please send a copy to us along with the completed RESPONSE section of each of the complaint forms, and cc Greg Gaj asking him to close the complaints. I know it may take awhile to get a TRA inspection. Thanks much.



comp 08-160 Liebling Circus 3203, FORM 04-29-08.doc comp 08-160A Liebling Circus 3203 FORM 04-29-08.doc

Linda L. Kovar, ILA
(970) 494-7463
Carol G Porter/FL/APHIS/USDA



Carol G
Porter/FL/APHIS/USDA
05/28/2008 07:52 AM

To Linda L Kovar/CO/APHIS/USDA@USDA
cc
Subject Complaint #08-160 & #08-160A

Hi Linda:

Here is my response to complaint #08-160 and #08-160A. The regional office will forward a hard copy. I'll forward an itinerary if I see that they are heading back out to the western region. Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.



Label Inspection.rtf Labels Memo.doc

Carol Gaddy Porter
USDA-Animal Care
Eastern Region
PO Box 656
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Fax: 727-725-1680
Voicemail: 703-812-6033

JUL 18 2008

Memo

To: Dr. Greg Gaj
From: Carol Porter
CC: AC Eastern and Western Regional Office
Date: May 28, 2008
Re: Complaint #08-160 and #08-160A

On May 22, 2008 I conducted a thorough inspection at the home site of The Florida State Family Circus (customer #3203) as a result of complaints #08-160 and #08-160A. Tommy and Franciszka Liebel, the owners of the circus, accompanied me on the inspection.

The animals present on site during the inspection consisted of one 28 year old African elephant known as "Nosey" and two adult spider monkeys. I inspected the elephant, her housing, food, and transport trailer. In addition, I had Mr. Liebel demonstrate for me how he conducts elephant rides and public feedings. I also requested that he demonstrate where the public barriers are placed during the rides/feedings. He stated to me that he is the one that conducts the elephant rides and the only time public feedings are allowed is when he is present. Public feedings are only allowed during the time that the elephant rides are taking place. Mr. Liebel did state that he does allow his older children to sell the peanuts used for the feedings and that they are normally present during the rides. He also stated that the children are never in charge of the elephant rides or feedings.

The licensee was cited for several structural issues pertaining to enclosures located at the home site. All items were corrected during the course of the inspection. Veterinary records indicated that a current TB trunk wash was conducted on 4/17/2008-4/16/2008 with the results pending.

My responses to complaint # 08-160 are listed below:

- The complainant states that the elephant's leg chains are not padded. The licensee stated that he does not use padding for the leg chains. I inspected the legs of the elephant closely and there is no evidence of rubbing, sores, or scarring. The elephant was chained when I arrived for the inspection as a result of the elephant care procedures being performed by Mr. Liebel. The elephant was chained on the front right leg and the left rear leg. I inspected the chains and found no abnormalities. I discussed with Mr. Liebel the importance of padding the chains for the comfort of the animal. He stated to me that he would get pieces of fire hose and pad the chains prior to going back out on the road.
- I asked Mr. Liebel how he normally chains the elephant and he stated that she is normally chained with opposite legs. I stated that at one point I had seen photos of the elephant being chained on the same side. He stated that at times it depends on

the location of available areas to chain the animal...but she always has enough chain to adequately move around. I could not accurately access this portion of the complaint on a home site inspection.

JUL 18 2008

- I asked about exercise for the elephant while on the road. Mr. Liebel stated that "Nosey" receives adequate exercise due to the rides that he gives on a daily basis as well as the fact that he waters her 6-8 times a day. When he waters her he takes her off the chains and walks her. Mr. Liebel stated that "Nosey" does not have free access of water due to the fact that any receptacle would be used as a potential weapon. He stated that "Nosey" would pick up a bucket or tub and throw it into the crowd. He stated that she would also turn over the receptacle and create a "big, muddy mess" under the tent. He stated that he waters her 6-8 times a day. I have asked Mr. Liebel to keep a log of all of the times he waters "Nosey" throughout the day. I told him it was not a regulation but was a good idea since he didn't provide free access to water. He stated that he would begin keeping a log of each time he waters the animal while on the road.
- Regarding complaint #08-160A that refers to the lack of shade for the elephant at a particular venue—I cannot adequately respond to that since I did not inspect the elephant at that location. I did however look at the photos supplied with complaint #08-160 and notice that the elephant that is chained under the tent has plenty of shade. Although the chains are on the same side of the animal she does not appear to be fighting the chains, as was stated in complaint #08-160A. There appears to be plenty of slack in the chains in the photos supplied with complaint #08-160. It is my understanding that both complaints were generated from the same venue.

I don't feel like I can adequately answer the entire complaint based on a home site inspection and will be requesting that a TRA inspection be conducted in an effort to fully answer this complaint. Ms. Liebel stated that they would be leaving soon to go back out on the road and would submit an itinerary to the regional office as soon as they had their shows confirmed.

Memo

JUN 03 2008

JUL 18 2008

To: Dr. Greg Gaj
From: Carol Porter
CC: AC Eastern and Western Regional Office
Date: May 28, 2008
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Western Region Complaints

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JUN 27 2008

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JUN 02 2008

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JUN 17 2008



INSPECTION REPORT

HUGO LIEBEL
FLORIDA STATE FAMILY CIRCUS INC

Customer ID: 3203

Certificate: 58-C-0288 JUL 1 8 2008

1432 ADAIR RD
DAVENPORT, FL 33836

Site: 001

FLORIDA STATE FAMILY CIRCUS

Inspection
Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: MAY-22-2008

3.80 (a X 2 X ii)

PRIMARY ENCLOSURES.

(2) Primary enclosures must be constructed and maintained so that they: (ii) Protect the nonhuman primates from injury

***The enclosure that houses the two spider monkeys has several strands of hay twine tied to the outside of the enclosure bars. The primates have access to the twine and can easily pull it into the enclosure and get tangled up in it or hang themselves with it. The twine should be removed in an effort to prevent the animals from injuring themselves. Correct by: Corrected at time of inspection.

3.125 (a)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

(a) Structural strength. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

***The elephant barn has two separate areas where nails are protruding into the barn. The areas are located in the wooden "forms" located over the two windows. Protruding nails could possibly cause injury to the elephant and should be removed and/or repaired. Correct by: Corrected at the time of inspection.

Reviewed: Program of Veterinary Care; TB trunk wash reports for 2008 are still pending--tests conducted on 4/14/08-4/16/08.

Animal Inventory: 1 African Elephant ("Nosey"), 2 Spider Monkeys

END OF REPORT

Prepared By:

CAROL PORTER, A CI, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

1069

Date:

MAY-22-2008

Received By:

Tommy Liebel

Title: OWNER

Date:

MAY-22-2008

JUN 02 2008

Memo

To: Dr. Greg Gaj
From: Carol Porter
CC: AC Eastern and Western Regional Office
Date: May 28, 2008
Re: Complaint #08-160 and #08-160A

Western Region Complaints ✓

*sent copy
6/2/08
SAS*

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INSPECTION REPORT

JUN 16 2008
JUN 14 2008 3203 cust_id
280679 insp_id
8031 site_id

HUGO LIEBEL
FLORIDA STATE FAMILY CIRCUS INC

1432 ADAIR RD
DAVENPORT, FL 33836

Customer ID: 3203

Certificate: 58-C-0288

Site: TRA

FLORIDA STATE FAMILY CIRCUS

Inspection

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

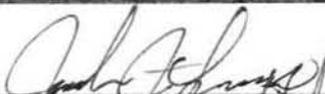
Date: JUN-16-2008

This inspection conducted at the Ida Co. fairgrounds with the owner.

No non-compliances noted this inspection.

1 African Elephant Nosey.

End of report.

Prepared By: 

JOHN LIES, A.C.I., USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR ID: 4041
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Date:
JUN-16-2008

Received By: 

Hugo Liebel

Title: OWNER

Date:
JUN-16-2008

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT

Complaint No. 08-165	Date Entered 20 May 2008	Received By K Bolin
Referred To Gaj/Adams	Reply Due 19 Jun 2008	

Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against

Name McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary Inc		Customer/License/Registration No. 58-C-0423/3051	
Address 12943 61ST ST. N.			
City West Palm Beach	State FL	Zip 33412	Phone No (561)790-2116

Complainant

Name		Organization PETA	
Address 501 Front St			
City Norfolk	State VA	Zip 23510	Phone No./Email address (757) 6227382

How was complaint received? email

Forward response to FOIA: Yes No

Details of Complaint: Sanctuary owner Mark McCarthy was bitten by his adult tiger while being used for a music video photo shoot. A chain used to control the tiger apparently tightened around the neck and body causing the tiger to choke and panic. McCarthy suffered puncture wounds on his calf down to the bone.

Results:

*See: attempted inspection on 05-21-08
inspection on 05-27-08
Memo on 05/27/08*

Application packet provided? Yes No

INSPECTOR

Megan E Adams

DATE

05/27/08

REVIEWED BY

DATE

MAY 28 2008

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: DRS GOLDENTYER AND GAJ
FROM: MEGAN E. ADAMS-ACI
SUBJECT: COMPLAINT NO. 08-165 MARK MCCARTHY
DATE: 5/27/2008
CC:

On this date I was able to do an animal welfare inspection at Mr. McCarthy's premises. (I had tried the week before and had an attempted inspection on 05-21-08.) No noncompliant items were found on this inspection. I interviewed Mr. McCarthy concerning the events of May 5, 2008 when Mr. McCarthy was bitten by his female white tiger.

Mr. McCarthy explained the sequence of events in detail and showed me the chain that is used as well as the swivel end to prevent the chain twisting on the animal's neck. According to Mr. McCarthy the tiger came out of the transport enclosure and went to the spot for the shoot. She flopped over and began to roll around. She rolled all the way over which caused the chain to wrap around her midsection. When she stood up she felt the constraint and panicked. Mr. McCarthy secured another chain around her neck and cut off the constricting chain. It was while he was removing the first chain that he was bitten. He stated that she was biting at the chain and nearby rocks when she got his right calf. He sustained four puncture wounds to his leg.

Mr. McCarthy stated that he was able to complete the video shoot and loaded her back into her transport enclosure within the trailer before he was given first aid on the set. The tiger was unharmed and only endured momentary stress. Mr. McCarthy provided me with the incident narrative that the Florida State officials completed. No citations were issued.

I spoke with Dr. Gaj at length concerning the complaint. In my opinion this event was a freak accident. Mr. McCarthy reacted quickly and no member of the public or the animal itself was in danger. He had all of his emergency equipment with him which allowed for the situation to be resolved quickly. While discussing other options to try to avoid this type of thing ever happening again Mr. McCarthy stated that he didn't plan on doing this type of work again. I did explain to Mr. McCarthy that if anything like this were to ever happen again that it would be addressed by the agency. He stated that he understood fully.

End of memo.

FEB 27 2009

8

CAPTIVE WILDLIFE INCIDENT/BITE/ESCAPE NARRATIVE

1. TYPE

BITE X

2. IBE # 08034

3. RESPONDING OFFICER (S) INV. WIYDA & INV. STIFFLER

4. INCIDENT DATE 5/5/08

5. VERIFICATION TYPE OBSERVED

6. ANIMAL TYPE INVOLVED TIGER

7. LOCATION OF INCIDENT MIAMI-STAR ISLAND

9. OWNER'S NAME MARK MCCARTHY

PERMITTED YES

10. INJURIES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION TWO PUNCTURE WOUNDS TO THE RIGHT CALF

VICTIM'S NAME MARK MCCARTHY

11. ACTION TAKEN REPORT TAKEN

14. INCIDENT NARRATIVE

ON 5/13/08, I OBSERVED AN INCIDENT REFERENCE A TIGER BITE ON THE LOCAL NEWS. THE NEWS STATED THE INCIDENT OCCURRED IN MIAMI AND THE OWNER WAS LOCATED IN BROWARD.

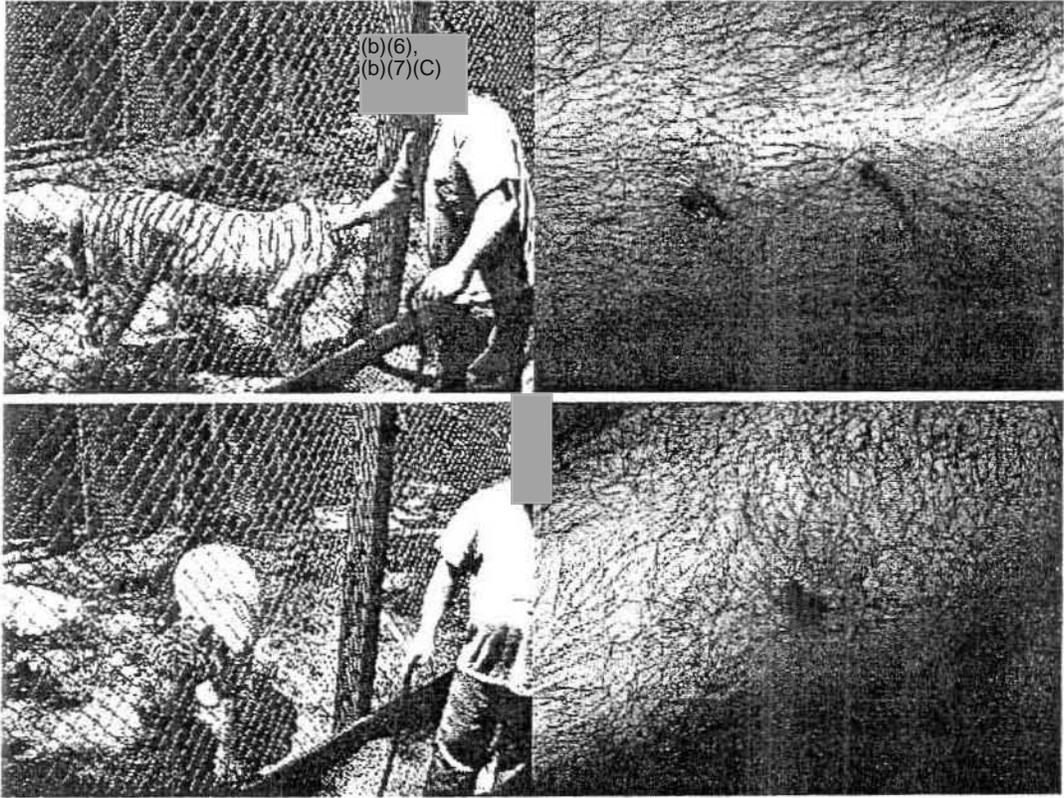
ON 5/14/08, I WAS CONTACTED BY MAJOR STERMEN WHOM STATED THE VICTIM WAS MARK MCCARTHY.

INV. BILL STIFFLER AND I INTERVIEWED MR. MCCARTHY AT HIS HOME THE SAME DAY.

HE STATED THE INCIDENT OCCURRED 5/5/08 AND DID NOT CONTACT US BECAUSE THE BITE DID NOT WARRANT MEDICAL ATTENTION.

8

MR. MCCARTHY STATED HE WAS ON LOCATION AT STAR ISLAND MIAMI TO SHOOT A VIDEO. HE WAS UNLOADING A FEMALE WHITE TIGER ~ 3.5YOA "SABI". SHE WAS ATTACHED TO A CHAIN AND WHEN SHE WAS RELEASED OUT OF HER CAGE, SHE BEGAN TO ROLL ON THE GROUND AND THE CHAIN WRAPPED AROUND HER MIDSECTION. WHEN "SABI" STOOD UP THE CHAIN WAS STILL WRAPPED AROUND HER AND BEGAN TO CHOKE HER, THE CAT BECAME FRIGHTENED AND PANICKED. MR. MCCARTHY ATTACHED ANOTHER CHAIN TO "SABI" SO HE COULD RELEASE THE FIRST CHAIN. WHILE ACCOMPLISHING THIS THE TIGER BIT MR. MCCARTHY'S RIGHT CALF. MR. MCCARTHY WAS ABLE TO ATTACH THE SECOND CHAIN, AND CUT THE FIRST CHAIN FROM THE TIGER. THE TIGER IMMEDIATELY CALMED DOWN. MR. MCCARTHY FINISHED THE SHOOT WITHOUT GOING TO THE HOSPITAL. PARAMEDICS WERE CALLED, MR. MCCARTHY STATED THEY CLEANED THE WOUND AND LEFT. THE PUBLIC WAS NOT ENDANGERED AT ANY TIME AND MR. MCCARTHY CONTROLLED THE SITUATION. NO CITATIONS WERE ISSUED. PICTURES OF TWO PUNCTURE WOUNDS ATTACHED RIGHT. MCCARTHY WITH "SABI" LEFT.



MiamiHerald.com

Posted on Wed, May. 14, 2008

Trainer recovering after tiger bites him at rap video shoot

An animal trainer is recovering after his white tiger bit him during a rap music video taping in Miami.

Mark McCarthy suffered puncture wounds on his calf down to the bone. The Loxahatchee wildlife sanctuary owner says his tiger Sabi panicked when her chain tightened around her neck and body during the video shoot on May 5.

The 52-year-old trainer managed to get another leash for the 3-year-old tiger and cut the constricting chain loose.

McCarthy says Sabi "calmed right back down" and continued working at the Rick Ross video shoot on Miami's Star Island.

He says his injuries hurt but aren't too serious.

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FEB 28 2011

PalmBeachPost.com

 PRINTTHIS

Tiger bites Loxahatchee wildlife trainer during rapper's video shoot

By ROCHELLE E.B. GILKEN

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

There was real blood on the set of rapper Rick Ross' video shoot in Miami for "Here I Am."

Loxahatchee wildlife trainer Mark McCarthy got bit on the leg by his white tiger Sabi, who was in a scene as Ross' pet.



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McCarthy is now laid up with two puncture wounds in his right calf. He canceled school programs he had scheduled for the next week.

He said the bite happened on Monday when Sabi got tangled in her chain and McCarthy tried to free her. Sabi had rolled over like a house cat and the chain tightened around her neck, McCarthy said. Sabi panicked.

"She's starting to choke. Whatever's around her she figures is choking her and she's biting in all directions," McCarthy said.

The tiger trainer said blood seeped through his jeans, but he refused to stop production. He was briefly treated by paramedics on the scene and the shoot continued.



[See more photos](#)



Greg Lovett/Post

Loxahatchee wildlife trainer Mark McCarthy with a white Siberian tiger.

Tiger bites Loxahatchee wildlife trainer during rapper's video shoot



AP

"Won't be the first time I've been bit, won't be the last. I've been bit by everything from venomous snakes to tigers and leopards and monkeys and who knows what else," said the 52-year-old owner of McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary, who has been handling wild animals since he was 16.

Rapper Rick Ross was in Miami shooting a video for 'Here I Am.' Ross was not injured.

But he said the \$5,000 bonus he got for the video will barely make up for the shows he missed.



Nelly is also in the video, but was not on set at the time.

Vote for this story!

Greg Lovett/Post

Mark McCarthy has two puncture wounds on his right calf.



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Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

FEB 20 2008

May 16, 2008

Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer, Regional Director
USDA/APHIS/AC
920 Main Campus Dr., Ste. 200
Raleigh, NC 27606-5210

3 pages via fax: 919-855-7123

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

Please consider this letter an official request for the USDA to investigate the following incident involving **McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., dba McCarthy's Wildlife Center, in West Palm Beach, Florida, license #58-C-0423**. If violations of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) are identified, we urge you to pursue revocation of McCarthy's USDA license.

According to media reports, on May 5, Mark McCarthy was bitten by his adult tiger named Sabi while she was being used in a photo shoot for a music video. Sabi apparently began to choke and became highly distressed when a chain that was presumably used to "control" her tightened around her neck and body. The chain had to be cut to remove it from Sabi's body. McCarthy sustained bone-deep puncture wounds to his calf while working to free Sabi from the chain.

This incident appears to be a clear violation of multiple regulations and standards of the AWA, including 2.131(a), 2.131(b)(1), 2.131(c)(1), 2.131(d)(1), and 2.131(d)(3), which require animal handlers to be knowledgeable and experienced and animals to be handled in a manner that does not cause trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

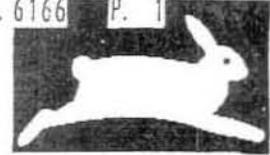
This incident was surely terrifying for Sabi. McCarthy, through his own admission that he is frequently bitten by the animals he handles, seems incapable of safely handling dangerous animals. We believe this is a chronic problem that warrants license revocation.

Thank you for your time. I can be contacted at

Sincerely,

Enclosures: *Palm Beach Post*, May 14, 2008, "Tiger Bites Loxahatchee Wildlife Trainer During Rapper's Video Shoot"

Miami Herald, May 14, 2008, "Trainer Recovering After Tiger Bites Him at Rap Video Shoot"



PETA

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

501 FRONT ST.
NORFOLK, VA 23510
757-622-PETA
757-622-0457 (FAX)

PETA.org
Info@peta.org



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THE RIGHTS OF ALL ANIMALS



August 5, 2008

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
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Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Services

Animal Care

920 Main Campus Drive
Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27606

Tel No. 919-855-7100
Fax No. 919-855-7123

PETA
501 Front Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear _____ :

Thank you for your email dated August 5, 2008 concerning McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary Inc located in West Palm Beach, Florida. Your concern has been given number 08-165. Please refer to this number when inquiring about this concern.

Your concerns have been forwarded to Greg Gaj/Megan Adams. Please be assured that we will evaluate the situation and take appropriate enforcement action if necessary.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention and for your concern for the welfare of animals.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.
Regional Director
Eastern Region, Animal Care



Animal Care is a part of the Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

AUG 08 2008

August 5, 2008

Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer, Regional Director
USDA/APHIS/AC
920 Main Campus Dr., Ste. 200
Raleigh, NC 27606-5210

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

Please consider this an addendum to our letter of May 16, which asked for an investigation of an incident involving **McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., dba McCarthy's Wildlife Center, in West Palm Beach, Florida, license #58-C-0423.**

As mentioned in our letter, Mark McCarthy was reportedly bitten by his adult tiger named Sabi while she was being used in a photo shoot for a music video. Sabi apparently began to choke and became highly distressed when a chain that was presumably used to "control" her tightened around her neck and body. The chain had to be cut to remove it from Sabi's body.

The finished video, which can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRKtBgkn17U>, provides further evidence that the tiger was mishandled. The tiger appears a number of times throughout the video, but at 3:30 can clearly be seen struggling against multiple chains around her neck.

Again, we ask you to pursue revocation of McCarthy's USDA license if violations of the Animal Welfare Act are identified.

Thank you for your time. I can be contacted at

Sincerely,

Enclosure via USPS: DVD, Rick Ross - Here I Am

The PETA logo features the word "PETA" in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Above the letters "E" and "T" is a stylized, white silhouette of a tiger's head, facing right.

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL
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757-622-0457 (FAX)

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FEB 28 2008

INSPECTION REPORT

3051 cust_id
122938 insp_id
8054 site_id

**MC CARTHY'S WILDLIFE
SANCTUARY INC
MC CARTHY'S WILDLIFE CENTER**

12943 61ST ST. N.
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33412

Customer ID: 3051
Certificate: 58-C-0423

Site: 001
MCCARTHY'S WILDLIFE

Inspection
Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: MAY-27-2008

No noncompliant items were identified on this inspection.

Inventory: Tigers-5 Lion-1 Cougars-5 Black leopards-3 Spotted leopards-2 Serval-1 Siberian lynx-2 Kinkajous-2
Skunks-2 Fox-1 Ringtail lemur-1 Black and white ruffed lemur-1 Squirrel monkey-1.

End of report.

Prepared By: Megan E. Adams
MEGAN ADAMS, A C I, USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Received By: _____

Title: DIRECTOR

Date:
MAY-27-2008

Date:
MAY-27-2008