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**USDA – APHIS –
ANIMAL CARE**

Memo

To: Dr. Betty Goldentyer
From: Jan Baltrush
CC:
Date: February 24, 1999
Re: Chimp incident in Stamford, CT

Dear Dr. Goldentyer,

As you have heard, a chimp named "Travis" attacked a woman in Stamford, CT last week. This chimp was owned by Sandra Herold of Stamford, CT.

In the mid 1990's I had heard that Mrs. Herold and her husband acquired a chimp and were going to use it on talk shows, ie: David Letterman and Regis and Kathy Lee. They were also thinking of using the animal for commercials.

Knowing that these activities would require a USDA Exhibitor license I went out to their place of business. A State of CT, Animal Control Officer knew the family well and accompanied me on this visit. I remember going to the Towing / Body Shop that the Herolds owned. However, I do not remember who I spoke to. I informed either Mr. or Mrs. Herold that they would need a USDA license if they were planning on using this chimp to do any talk shows or commercials.

I don't remember seeing the chimp on the premise that day. However, I do remember the room / enclosure that he was housed in. This chimp was brought to the "shop" on a regular basis. His enclosure overlooked the body shop and therefore, gave him visual contact with anyone that came into the garage. But to my knowledge he was not used as a draw for the business.

The rumors / stories that he was being used for commercials were no longer heard. And whenever his name came up I was always informed that "Travis" the chimp was just the Herold's pet.

Back in 2003, while driving through downtown Stamford, he escaped from the Herold's car. According to the news reports, it took the Herold's and the police a few hours to get "Travis" back into the vehicle. But again, everyone I talked to after that incident said that "he was just their pet".

Therefore, a USDA License was not needed, applied for, nor granted. I had very limited knowledge of this animal and therefore I do not know whom, or when, he was acquired from.

Should you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me.

Jan Baltrush

ACI – Waterbury, CT