



## Inspection Report

FELD ENTERTAINMENT INC

Customer ID: 7250

Certificate: 52-C-0137

Site: RED

RED UNIT VARIOUS TRAVELLING LOCATIONS

RINGLING BROS/BARNUM & BAILEY

8607 WESTWOOD CENTER DRIVE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Aug-25-2011

VIENNA, VA 22182

2.131 (b) (1)

### HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

(b)(1) Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

\*\*\* On 8/5/11 a tiger named Kimba had her tail injured during the process of being transferred from one cage to another, as required for the performance.

In the medical record for Kimba on 8/6/11 (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) of veterinary services states that (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) had called her and said that " Kimba had caught her tail in a transfer cage last night and had about a one inch cut near the tip of her tail. " A record created by a consulting veterinarian on 8/8/11 described the wound as follows: "the cut is about 1 ½ inches long and ½ wide and is approximately 1-2 inches from the distal tail tip."

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) told us that her understanding was that the tail had been closed in a gate by a handler, but she was uncertain about the details. It was unclear whether this was the result of a problem with the cage, a personnel training deficit, or simple human error. We asked to interview the employee involved, but access to the employee was denied by staff.

Handling animals in a manner that causes injury is detrimental to their health and well being. Steps should be taken to review injury incidents in order to be able to prevent future injuries through training and/or equipment modification, as indicated.

To be corrected from this time forward.

2.131 (d) (1)

### HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

(d)(1) Animals shall be exhibited only for periods of time and under conditions consistent with their good health and well-being.

#### Prepared By:

PAMELA L SMITH, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 6036

Aug-30-2011

#### Received By:

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Date:

Title:

Sep-01-2011



### Inspection Report

\*\*\* Banko, a 35 year old female asian elephant, was required to participate in the 7/20/11 performance in Los Angeles on a day when she experienced an episode of diarrhea and abdominal discomfort that required medication for pain.

Medical records for Banko were reviewed, and on 7/20/11 (b)(6),(b) of veterinary services states that the head of the elephant department had "called and said that Banko had diarrhea this morning and has been stretching out and acting uncomfortable throughout the morning. I advised him to give 30 ml of Banamine IM and to monitor." She stated that (b)(6), of veterinary services "will be coming in later today and will look at her then." A subsequent record for Banko created by the chair of veterinary services on 7/22/11 stated "...On arrival at venue on 7/20 she had been administered 30 ml of Banamine earlier that morning... Trainer indicated that she was still appeared colic [sic], but no further diarrhea noted... On observation during the afternoon of 7/20 the elephant continued to have the appearance that she was uncomfortable and drank only two trunkfuls of water when offered. While she manipulated the browse and hay available, her appetite was diminished. She was administered another 30 ml of Banamine after the last performance. On 7/21 her appetite and consumption of water increased, and while she still appeared somewhat uncomfortable, no obvious signs of colic were evident." The record stated that she passed feces that day with a significant amount of sand, and that on 7/22 "...her appetite and demeanor appeared normal." The episode was assessed by the chair of veterinary services as "Probable sand colic which has resolved."

A consulting veterinarian who had not been involved with the incident, and (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) were both on site during our inspection, and we questioned them about whether Banko had performed at the 7/20/11 show, and they confirmed that she had. (b)(6),(b) told us that Banko seemed comfortable enough to perform, and that to separate her from the elephant group would have been more distressing to her.

Animals should not be required to perform when they are experiencing pain and distress. Requiring animals to perform when they are experiencing pain or discomfort is not a condition consistent with their good health and well being. Appropriate planning and training measures should be put into effect in order to allow animals to be excused from performing in the event that they are experiencing any condition such as pain, discomfort, or illness that would make performing inconsistent with their good health and well being.

To be corrected from this time forward.

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Elephant foot care was reviewed, with improvements noted since the 6/10/11 inspection.

Concerns about the use of cement flooring for elephant enclosures at indoor venues were discussed.

Sarah the asian elephant was observed, and her medical records were examined, and USDA-APHIS-Animal

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### Inspection Report

Care will continue to review and monitor her situation.

The inspection was conducted by Dr Pamela Smith AC VMO and Dr Marcy Rosendale AC VMO at the Rabobank Arena in Bakersfield, CA.

All AWA covered species on site were inspected:

- 8 Asian Elephants inspected: Siamll (33 yrs), Banko (35 yrs), Baby (50 yrs), Assan (54 yrs), Sarah (54 yrs), Asia (43 yrs), Luna (27 yrs), Tonka (27 yrs)
- 14 Bengal tigers and 4 Siberian tigers
- 5 Grants zebras

The inspection was conducted with the (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

An exit briefing was conducted with the (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

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