



Inspection Report

FELD ENTERTAINMENT INC

Customer ID: 7250

Certificate: 52-C-0137

Site: BLU

BLUE UNIT VARIOUS TRAVELLING LOCATIONS

RINGLING BROS/BARNUM & BAILEY

8607 WESTWOOD CENTER DRIVE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Nov-18-2010

VIENNA, VA 22182

2.40 (b) (2)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

<<Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries,>>

During a prior inspection performed on 10/08/10, APHIS requested copies of medical records for the elephants. The records show a lack of adequate diagnostics, treatment plans, and follow-up treatments necessary to provide adequate veterinary care.

In particular, the licensee's records show that Sara (a 9 yr old Asian elephant) has had chronic lameness since early 2009, and that the licensee has not conducted adequate diagnostics, developed an adequate treatment plan, or ensured that the elephant received prescribed treatments. Radiographs were taken in April 2009, but no treatment was prescribed at that time. Although the (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)s subsequently recommended various diagnostics and, intermittently, prescribed analgesics (including on performance days) in response to reports of lameness or "stiffness", there is no indication that Sara has received recommended diagnostics to determine the cause(s) of her lameness and prescribed analgesics. To date, the licensee's veterinarians have different opinions about the causes of Sara's lameness and have not made a clear assessment about the cause of Sara's condition or how to prevent, control, and treat it.

The licensee shall conduct the tests necessary to diagnose health problems and develop methods to prevent, control, and treat them.

The licensee shall maintain thorough and complete documentation regarding diagnostics, treatment plans and treatments for the regulated species.

2.126 (a)

ACCESS AND INSPECTION OF RECORDS AND PROPERTY.

<< (a) Each exhibitor shall, during business hours, allow APHIS officials: (1) To enter its place of business; (4) To inspect and photograph the facilities, property and animals, as the APHIS officials consider necessary to enforce the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the standards in this subchapter; >>

Prepared By:

TRACY A THOMPSON, D.V.M.

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title:

SUPERVISORY ANIMAL CARE Inspector 5044

Date:

Nov-22-2010

Received By:

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

Date:

Nov-23-2010

Title:



DEC 02 2010

Inspection Report

APHIS understood that the licensee's animal husbandry activities typically begin between 6:30 and 7:00 AM and sought to inspect the animals first thing in the morning to assess health issues. APHIS officials arrived at the United Center in Chicago, IL, to inspect the licensee's facilities and animals. No persons were observed near the licensee's trailers and tents so APHIS contacted security personnel for the United Center at 7:00 AM for access to conduct the inspection. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) contacted (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) for the United Center by telephone and he asked to speak with APHIS officials at 7:20 AM. The United Center (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) stated that the animals were not housed in the building and that we would need to go to the area Ringling occupied on the grounds and locate a representative of the circus. He provided a contact number for the Ringling Bros Blue Uni (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) APHIS officials called the Ringling (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) at 7:23 AM but only reached a voice mail message. A detailed message was left explaining our need for access to conduct an inspection of the animals. APHIS officials followed the United Center (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) directions and moved the government vehicle off of the grounds and attempted to locate a circus representative. APHIS officials went to the gate as directed and spoke with 3 circus representatives who had previously accompanied APHIS officials during inspections of the licensee's animals and facilities (b)(6),(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) at approximately 7:50 AM who denied access to perform an inspection at that time. (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) stated that United Center security had previously informed him of APHIS' arrival but that he was instructed (by upper Ringling management) not to allow access for inspection until the Ringling (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) arrived. APHIS officials were not allowed to inspect the licensee's facilities and animals until approximately 8:15 AM.

APHIS officials were unable to inspect the licensee's facilities and animals during the critical time period because the licensee denied access to APHIS officials and delayed inspection for approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Correction: Licensee must allow APHIS officials to enter its place of business and inspect the facilities, property, and animals upon request during business hours. The licensee is responsible for making the arrangements necessary to provide such access, regardless of location.

3.137 (a) (2)

PRIMARY ENCLOSURES USED TO TRANSPORT LIVE ANIMALS.

<< Primary enclosures, such as compartments, transport cages, cartons, or crates, used to transport live animals shall be constructed in such a manner that the interior of the enclosure shall be free from any protrusions that could be injurious to the live animals contained therein;>>

On July 19, 2010 the licensee documents that Asian elephant Asha was injured sustaining abrasions over her right eye. Notes state that the animal scraped her forehead on trailer ride from the train to the building. On October 19, 2010 the licensee documents that Asian elephant Rudy had an abrasion over the right eyebrow noted during unloading from the transport vehicle.

The licensee stated that it routinely uses the same trailer to transport Rudy, Asha, Bonnie, and Barack. During this inspection, APHIS examined the transport trailer used to transport these elephants from the licensee's train to the performance venue. It had numerous burnished bolts in an elevated compartment which serves as a compartment or primary enclosure for the animals. Several of these bolts have sharp edges on their sides which could cause injury to these animals during transport.

Prepared By: Tracy A Thompson, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: SUPERVISORY ANIMAL CARE Inspector 5044

Date: Nov-22-2010

Received By: (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)

Title:

Date: Nov-23-2010



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Inspection Report

Compartments used to transport live animals shall be free of any sharp edges that could injure the live animals contained therein, namely elephants.

Correct by January 1, 2011.

The inspection was conducted by Dr Tracy Thompson, AC VMO and Dr Tami Howard, AC VMO at the United Center and the train yard at North Ave and Narraganset in Chicago, IL. The inspection was conducted with (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Government Relations, an attorney for Feld Entertainment, 4 Junior Handlers, representatives of Chicago Police Department, representatives of the Commission on Animal Care and Control, and Dr. Denise Sofranko, AC Field Specialist for Elephants and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) ES Investigator.

The exit briefing was conducted with (b)(6), (b)(7)(C), Feld Entertainment attorney, and (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) site on November 18, 2010.

Inspection report was sent to licensee via email, certified mail, and first class mail.

10 Asian Elephants inspected: Karen (41 yrs), Nichole (34 yrs), Juliette (18 yrs), Bonnie (16 yrs), Kelly Ann (14 yrs), Sara (9 yrs), Rudy (8 yrs), Asha (8 yrs), Irvin (5 yrs), and Barack (23 months).

Prepared By: Tracy A Thompson, VMO
TRACY A THOMPSON, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: SUPERVISORY ANIMAL CARE Inspector 5044

Date:
Nov-22-2010

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

Date:
Nov-23-2010