



<p>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE</p> <p><b>USDA</b></p> <p><b>OFFICIAL WARNING</b></p> <p><b>NOTICE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION</b></p>	<p><b>CASE NUMBER:</b> TX230014</p>
	<p><b>ALLEGED VIOLATOR:</b> AUSTIN AQUARIUM</p>
	<p><b>ADDRESS (City, State, ZIP Code):</b> AUSTIN, TX 78750</p>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about the date(s) listed below, you or your organization committed the following alleged violation(s) of Federal laws:

**Date of Alleged Violation: August 2, 2022**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c)(1) Handling of animals.**

During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

**Date of Alleged Violation: August 24, 2022**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c)(1) Handling of animals.**

During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) published federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the alleged violation(s) described above. This Official Warning is not to be construed as a final agency action, or as an adjudicated finding of a violation. If APHIS obtains evidence of any future violation of these federal regulations, APHIS may pursue civil penalties, criminal prosecution, or other sanctions for this alleged violation(s) and for any future violation(s). If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or alleged violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.

<b>APHIS OFFICIAL (Name):</b> Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer, D.V.M.	<b>OFFICE ADDRESS:</b> 4700 River Road, Unit 84 Riverdale, MD 20737	
<b>APHIS OFFICIAL (Title):</b> Deputy Administrator, APHIS, Animal Care	<b>DATE ISSUED:</b> October 27, 2022	<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</b> (970) 494-7478