



Inspection Report

GEORGE HANNEFORD JR

Customer ID: 3149

Certificate: 58-C-0666

Site: TRA

HANNEFORD, GEORGE

HANNEFORD FAMILY CIRCUS

4550 VERNA BETHANY RD

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: Feb-12-2011

MYAKKA CITY, FL 34251

2.40 (b) (2)

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

Section 2.40 (b) (2) states Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: (2) The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries.

1. Liz, a 36 year old Asian Elephant, was noted to be thin and underweight. The elephant's pelvis and dorsal processes of the spinal vertebrae were prominent and her ribs were visible. The most recent weight recorded on 6/30/10 was 4760 pounds.

Per this Regulation, an exhibitor should use appropriate methods to maintain the health of the animal. The elephant should have a complete and comprehensive veterinary exam by a veterinarian who is experienced in elephant medicine and husbandry to review the current diet, determine the cause of the weight loss, and make recommendations for an adequate diet to meet the nutritional needs of this elephant. In addition, Licensee should weigh the elephant on a more frequent basis to monitor any changes in her weight. Correct by 3/14/11.

2. Liz, a 36 year old Asian Elephant, was noted to have an angular limb deformity of the front left leg as well as a congenital deformity of the right hind leg. Both of these conditions have affected her gait.

Per this Regulation, an exhibitor should use appropriate methods to maintain the health of the animal. Liz has been examined in the past by the attending veterinarian; however due to the nature of the deformities and her advancing age, the elephant should be examined and evaluated at appropriate intervals by a veterinarian who is experienced in elephant medicine and husbandry to assess her suitability for performances and travel. Included in this evaluation should be a discussion of behaviors required for performance, appropriate exercise, and substrate. Correct by 3/14/11.

2.131 (c) (1)

HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

Section 2.131(c) (1) states - " During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal

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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.

1. APHIS personnel were on-site during appearances of the Shrine Circus at the Tingley Coliseum in Albuquerque, NM on 2/11/11 and 2/12/11 and observed the elephant rides given before the show, at intermission, and after the show. The public barrier surrounding the Elephant ride area was made up of rope strung between free-standing vertical metal posts that were approximately 2 feet high, and spaced about 1 post every 20 feet around the ride area. There was slack in the rope that resulted in sagging of the rope mid-way between adjacent posts. Members of the public crowded around the ride area while the rides were in progress.

The only circus personnel present at the ride area were either loading the riders or handling the Elephant during the rides. During each of the ride sessions APHIS personnel observed young children holding onto and swinging the rope while the rides were in progress. During the 2/12/11 4:30 PM intermission rides, one child was observed to be inside the rope barrier at a point where the rope had fallen onto the ground. Loading of passengers for the rides given after the 2/11/11 4:30 PM show began before the rope barrier was in place. As the worker began setting up the rope barrier while passengers were being loaded, he/she had to ask several people to move out of the way in order to put the rope barrier up.

Per this Regulation, any animal must be handled during public exhibition so that 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 the animal and the public. There was an insufficient physical barrier in place around the ride area between the Elephant and the viewing public in order to minimize the risk of harm to both the animal and the public. The Licensee needs to address this item for the safety of the Elephant and members of the public. Correct from this date forward.

3.138 (a) (2)

PRIMARY CONVEYANCES (MOTOR VEHICLE, RAIL, AIR, AND MARINE).

Section 3.138 (a) states - "The animal cargo space of primary conveyances used in transporting live animals shall be designed and constructed to protect the health, and ensure the safety and comfort of the live animals contained therein at all times."

1. There are numerous areas in the trailer where the metal lining is rusting and or deteriorating resulting in sharp and jagged edges that could cause an injury to the Elephants during transportation.

Per this Section, animal cargo spaces used to transport animals should be constructed to ensure the safety and protect the animals. The Licensee needs to repair or replace the damaged metal so that there are no longer any sharp edges that could cause an injury to the Elephants. Correct by 3/1/11.

NOTE - This was a focused inspection of the Licensee that took place at the Tingley Coliseum.

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Albuquerque, NM and included items and areas related to the care of the Elephants. The following Elephants were present: Carol (Asian) 36 years, Liz (Asian) 36 years, and Patty (Asian) 36 years.

NOTE - Exit interview held 2/13/11 on-site with Licensee and APHIS personnel Dr. Paula Gladue and Dr. Denise Sofranko, Field Specialist for Elephants. END OF REPORT.

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