

June 5, 2014

Major Andy Krause
 Regional Commander
 Division of Law Enforcement, North Central Region
 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Re: Request for Investigation of Dangerous Handling of an Elephant at a
 Restaurant

Dear Major Krause:

I am writing on behalf of PETA to follow up on PETA's May 21 complaint (number W012813-052314) about an elephant who was apparently left unattended on a public beach by Harry "Bones" Craig of 4629 N.W. 32nd Place, Bell, FL, 32619.

A concerned citizen reported to PETA that on June 2, an elephant was being exhibited outside of George's on Sunset, a restaurant located at 1549 Sunset Dr., South Miami, FL 33146. Based on photographs posted to Instagram on June 2 under "#georges," PETA believes that this elephant's handler is Craig and that the elephant is likely Judy (*see* Photos 1 and 3). The photographs reveal that children were allowed to approach the elephant and that the elephant was separated from restaurant patrons only by strips of yellow tape (*see* Photo 1 and 2), all in apparent violation of:

- Fla. Admin. Code Ann. r. 68A-6.0023, which requires that "[n]o person shall maintain captive wildlife in any unsafe ... condition, or in a manner which results in threats to the public safety" and that "[u]nconfined captive wildlife shall be maintained under rigid supervision and control, so as to prevent injuries to members of the public"
- Fla. Admin. Code Ann. r. 68A-6.0042, which requires that a "protective physical barrier shall be present between the elephant and the public at all elephant ride sites. Such barrier shall prevent bystanders from touching the animal." Although rides may not have been given at the event, this rule shows the appropriate standard to apply at *any* event where elephants may be in close contact with the public.

The yellow tape may have created a visual "barrier" to humans, but it can hardly be considered "protective" to Judy or the public. Moreover, photographs show that children were allowed to cross the tape and stand directly within reach of Judy's powerful trunk. As mentioned in PETA's prior complaint, elephants pose [monumental risks to human life and safety](#), and Craig's lax handling exacerbates the danger. An elephant's trunk is extremely strong. As you may know, a woman in Florida recently sustained a collapsed lung, liver and kidney lacerations, damage to her spleen (which had to be removed), broken ribs, a broken left wrist, and several large de-gloving wounds after an elephant used his trunk to grab her

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arm and pull her into the metal bars of his enclosure while she attempted to take a photo of him (*see* Attachments A and B). When they attack, elephants often grab their victims with their trunk and then crush them with their feet.

Please investigate this incident and hold Craig accountable to the fullest extent of the law, keeping in mind that under rule 68-1.101, the FWC "**shall suspend [or] revoke ... any license, permit or other authorization**" after considering the circumstances of a permittee's violations. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,



Delcianna Winders, Esq.

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