

June 28, 2017

Larry Rickard
Owner
Great Lakes Medieval Faire

Dear Mr. Rickard,

I'm writing again on behalf of PETA with urgent information about [Hugo Liebel](#). He's exhibiting the suffering elephant Nosey (aka "Tiny") with the Great American Family Circus, which is scheduled to perform at the upcoming Great Lakes Medieval Faire, where she's been exhibited several years in a row. I urge you to ensure that the fair goes forward without her.

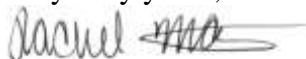
Liebel has been cited for nearly [200 animal-welfare violations](#), most of which have been related to his mistreatment of Nosey. U.S. Department of Agriculture citations show that he's denied her adequate veterinary care for a chronic skin condition, failed to care for her toenails and feet properly, withheld food from her in order to "train" her, and shackled her in chains so short that she could barely take a single step.

[Video footage](#) of Nosey standing alone in a hot parking lot—confined to a cramped, electrified enclosure without shade, food, or water—shows her reality: a life of deprivation, discomfort, and loneliness. As you can see in the video, she often sways back and forth, a sign of suffering and distress that's *never* seen among elephants in the wild.

Years of being shackled in chains and forced to perform tricks have taken their toll on her, and [an elephant expert](#) has characterized her case as "the worst, most prolonged, documented example of an uncorrected case of suffering and abuse in an elephant I have ever reviewed." According to this veterinarian, Nosey has had bouts of lameness since 2014—which was first spotted and has been [well documented at your fair](#)—and is likely suffering from arthritis, a painful condition that can be fatal in elephants.

At the Great Lakes Medieval Faire, Nosey may spend upwards of eight hours a day being forced to stand in one place waiting for riders or made to walk in the same small circle over and over again. During circus performances, she's coerced into performing dangerous, even painful, tricks. With such an unrelenting, monotonous schedule, it's no wonder that she sways and her body gets sore. Please prioritize animal welfare by going forward without Nosey and commit to only animal-free entertainment at future fairs.

Very truly yours,



Rachel Mathews
Associate Director | Captive Animal Law Enforcement

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS
FOUNDATION

Washington, D.C.
1536 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026
323-644-PETA

Norfolk
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA

Oakland
554 Grand Ave.
Oakland, CA 94610
510-763-PETA

PETA FOUNDATION IS AN
OPERATING NAME OF FOUNDATION
TO SUPPORT ANIMAL PROTECTION.

AFFILIATES:

- PETA U.S.
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)