

**United States Department of Agriculture** 

Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Washington, D.C.

Thomas Edmonds d/b/a Walnut Prairie Wildside 204 Mulberry Street West Union, IL 62477

## OFFICIAL NOTICE OF 21 DAY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE 33-B-0435

Dear Mr. Edmonds,

I write to notify you that your license (33-B-0435) under the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. § 2131 <u>et seq</u>.) (AWA or Act) is hereby suspended, pursuant to section 19 of the Act, for a period of 21 days, effective upon your receipt of this letter.

We are taking this action because we have reason to believe that you have willfully violated, *inter alia*, sections 2.40(a)(1), 2.40(b)(2), 2.75, 2.75(a)(1), 2.126(b), 2.131, 2.131(a), and 2.131(c)(1) of the regulations issued under the AWA (9 C.F.R. Part 2)(Regulations), and failed to meet the minimum standards for animals, (9 C.F.R. Part 3)(Standards), specifically 9 C.F.R. §§ 3.4(b), 3.10(b), 3.11(b), 3.75(c)(1), 3.78(e), 3.80(a)(2)(ix), 3.81, 3.125(a), 3.125(d), 3.127, 3.127(b), 3.127(d), and 3.131(d). Our evidence reveals that, between May 9, 2017 and June 3, 2021, you failed to: provide adequate veterinary care, employ an attending veterinarian and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care, maintain appropriate records, allow proper access and inspection of records and property, properly handle the animals, provide adequate housing and shelter, provide potable water, provide proper sanitization, provide proper housing facilities, provide proper barriers, provide environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being, ensure proper waste disposal, provide proper fencing, and provide proper pest control.

It is a violation of the Regulations to buy, sell, transport, exhibit, or deliver for transportation, any "animal," as that term is defined in the Act and the Regulations, during the period of suspension. 9 C.F.R. § 2.10(c). This prohibition applies to you and to any employee, agent or other person acting on your behalf. Failure to comply with this prohibition may subject you to sanctions authorized by the Act. 7 U.S.C. § 2149.

If you have any questions concerning this suspension, please communicate with:

G. Blake Jackson
Office of the General Counsel
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1417
Washington, D.C. 20250-1417
(202) 578-4922

June 15, 2021

blake.jackson@usda.gov

Danielle Park Office of the General Counsel 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 1417 Washington, D.C. 20250-1417 (202) 878-0730 danielle.park@usda.gov

Done at Washington, D.C. this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June 2021

Kevin Shea APHIS Administrator Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service