



### Inspection Report

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Desie Armstrong  
1405 S Kings Hwy  
Texarkana, TX 75501

Customer ID: **507465**  
Certificate: **74-C-1159**  
Site: 001  
Desie Armstrong

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION  
Date: 19-SEP-2023

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#### 2.40(a)(1)

##### Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

The licensee did not have a complete written program of Veterinary care (PVC) for the inspector to review. The licensee had the cover page and a page to document on site visits available for review but did not have any subsequent pages regarding the care that would be provided to the primates. Failure to provide a written program of veterinary care prevents APHIS officials from determining if the program is being followed and adequate care is provided to the animals. A written Program of Veterinary Care is required when the attending veterinarian is employed on a part-time basis, in order to ensure the facility has a program to follow and all animals have adequate veterinary care. The written Program of Veterinary Care in consultation with the attending veterinarian must be available for review. Correct by 06-October-2023.

#### 2.40(b)(2) **Critical**

##### Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

An approximately 6-year-old White-Throated Capuchin "British" has had teeth removed for handling purposes. The primate had undergone tooth extractions on the canine and incisor teeth from both the top and bottom jaw on 11-October-2021. The primate did not have any underlying dental issues that required the removal of the teeth. The licensee and the attending veterinarian both confirmed that the tooth extraction was performed for safer handling during exhibition and routine husbandry.

Performing surgical procedures (tooth extractions) for reasons that are not medically required is not an appropriate method of veterinary care. The tooth extractions of healthy teeth subject the animal to unnecessary suffering, chronic medical issues, difficulty with proper diet intake, and eliminates the ability to perform species typical behaviors.

The licensee must ensure that appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases, and injuries are used when treating all animals. Additionally, tooth extractions should only be performed on animals when it is medically necessary. Correct by 06-October-2023.

#### 2.75(b)(1)

##### Records: Dealers and exhibitors.

Recent acquisition and dispositions of primates do not meet the record keeping requirements. The facility does not have all the required information for acquisitions or the dates of disposition (deaths) for primates at the facility. Complete and

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care  
Title: ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

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accurate records are necessary to facilitate the tracking of animals and maintain compliance with other aspects of the AWA. Every dealer shall make, keep, and maintain records or forms which fully disclose the information concerning animals, purchased or otherwise acquired, owned, held, leased, or otherwise in his or her possession or under his or her control, or which is transported, sold, euthanized, or otherwise disposed of by that dealer or exhibitor. The licensee must ensure that complete and accurate information is maintained in accordance with 2.75(b)(1) is provided moving forward. Correct by 06-October-2023.

### 2.126(c)

#### Access and inspection of records and property; submission of itineraries.

The licensee conducting overnight travel at an exhibition site in New Philadelphia, Ohio without a written itinerary submitted. Failure to provide a written itinerary inhibits APHIS officials from determining compliance with the AWA when animals are not at an approved site.

In the case of traveling exhibitors, itineraries must be submitted to USDA via fax, mail, or electronic mail and received at least two days prior to any overnight travel. The itinerary should contain complete and accurate information including the whereabouts of any animal intended for exhibition at any location other than the person's approved site.

The licensee must ensure submission of an itinerary for all future travel in which regulated activities will be conducted. Correct by 06-October-2023.

### 2.131(b)(1)

#### Handling of animals.

An approximately 23-year-old White-Throated Capuchin "Jo Jo" is wearing a collar with excess chain that poses a risk of getting caught on the wire enclosure the animal is transported. The excess chain hangs approximately 6 inches from the collar and is used to attach to a lead when the animal is removed from the enclosure.

An approximately 6-year-old White-Throated Capuchin "British" is wearing a collar that has an approximately 3-inch metal swivel for attaching the lead rope. The licensee stated that the collar and excess chain/swivel is never removed from the animal and that the animal has been wearing the collar continuously with no issues.

The excess lead chain/swivel on the collars poses a known risk of strangulation if the chain were to get caught in the wire enclosure or on other objects in the enclosure. The licensee must ensure that the primate is handled in a way that does not put the primate in unnecessary risk of trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort. Correct by 06-October-2023.

### 2.131(c)(1)

#### Handling of animals.

APHIS Officials reviewed two social media videos which were posted on 24-August-2023 of White-Throated Capuchins grabbing and biting two different children during public exhibition. Additionally, both the licensee, organ grinder, and monkey were seen in videos posted that day from that location.

One social media video shows a young girl sitting with the primate on the knee of the adult. The primate grabs the hand of the girl and bites her, and she quickly pulls her hand away. The second social media video shows the licensee holding the lead of the primate and the animal walking up to a young girl. The primate is handed something by the girl and hands it to the licensee, the primate then grabs the hand of the girl and bites her. The primate retreats from the child and lays onto

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the ground covering her face with her tail showing signs of stress from the encounter. The bites that were received by the children did not require medical attention.

The licensee stated that the teeth of the primate have been removed to prevent harm to the public during exhibition.

Failure to handle animals so there is minimal risk to the public and to the animal, can lead to injury to the public and the animal, zoonotic disease spread, and stress in the animals.

The licensee must ensure that during public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public. Correct by 06-October-2023.

**2.132(d) Critical**

**Procurement of dogs, cats, and other animals; dealers.**

The licensee has knowingly purchased animals from unlicensed facilities that require a USDA license. The animals on hand form (APHIS 7019) that was provided shows an acquisition of a White-Throated Capuchin from an individual who held a canceled license. The animals on hand form (APHIS 7019) also shows the acquisition of a Silver Spider Monkey from an unlicensed facility. The birthdates of the animals are recorded where the date of acquisition should be maintained.

Sales of wild and exotic animals is a covered activity; therefore, all sellers require a valid license. The inspector confirmed that this facility does not currently, nor did they have a valid license at the time of sale of these animals.

Purchase of animals from unlicensed facilities limits traceability of animals and prevents APHIS officials from ensuring that AWA regulations are met and adequate animal welfare is maintained at source facilities. Correct by ensuring that the facility only purchases animals from individuals/facilities that hold a current, valid, and unsuspended license or those which do not require a license. Correct by 06-October-2023.

**3.87(a)(3)**

**Primary enclosures used to transport nonhuman primates.**

Two White-Throated Capuchins were transported in a dog crate style enclosure that had standard wire walls with wide enough spaces that allowed the non-human primates to extend their hands and arms outside the transport enclosure. Nonhuman primates that can put body parts through openings in the sides/doors of their transport crates may become injured during transport or may injure nearby animals. Correct for all future transports by using only crates that prevent the animals from putting their body parts outside of the crate. Correct by 06-October-2023.

**3.87(a)(6)**

**Primary enclosures used to transport nonhuman primates.**

Two White-Throated Capuchins were transported in a dog crate style enclosure that had standard wire walls that did not have handles on the exterior of the enclosure. Failure to provide adequate handholds or handles on transport enclosures can lead to unintentional contact with the animals and tilting of the enclosure when it is being moved. The licensee must ensure that adequate devices such as handholds are provided on its exterior and enable the enclosures to be lifted without tilting it, and ensure that anyone handling the enclosure will not come into physical contact with the animal contained inside. Correct by 06-October-2023.

**3.87(c)(2)**

**Primary enclosures used to transport nonhuman primates.**

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Two White-Throated Capuchins were transported in enclosures that did not contain projecting rims or similar devices to ensure adequate ventilation. The lack of projecting rims can cause inadequate ventilation when something is placed against the enclosure. Projecting rims or similar devices must be located on the exterior of each enclosure wall having a ventilation opening, in order to prevent obstruction of the openings. The projecting rims or similar devices must be large enough to provide a minimum air circulation space of 0.75 inches between the primary enclosure and anything the enclosure is placed against. The licensee must ensure that the transport enclosure has appropriate projecting rims. Correct by 06-October-2023.

**3.87(f)**

**Primary enclosures used to transport nonhuman primates.**

Two White-Throated Capuchins were transported in an enclosure that did not have the words "Live Animal" or "Wild Animals" with arrows or other markings indicating the correct upright position of the enclosure clearly marked. A lack of clear markings can inhibit correct handling and cage orientation by first responders in the event of an emergency. The licensee must ensure that on top and on one or more sides are marked with the words "Wild Animals" or "Live Animals" in letters at least 1 inch (2.5 cm) high, with arrows or other markings to indicate the correct upright position of the primary enclosure. Correct by 06-October-2023.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the Licensee.

Additional Inspectors:

Lauren Murphy, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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### Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
507465	74-C-1159	001	Desie Armstrong	19-SEP-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000002	<i>Cebus capucinus</i>	WHITE-HEADED / WHITE-THROATED CAPUCHIN
000002	<b>Total</b>	