

## United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

GEDMONDS-WIGGINS INS-0000892208

### **Inspection Report**

Houston Interactive Aquarium and Animal Preserve Customer ID: **6002705**5440 N Sam Houston Parkway East Certificate: **74-C-1129** 

Houston, TX 77032

Site: 002

Houston Interactive

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 12-SEP-2023

#### 2.131(d)(2)

#### Handling of animals.

At the time of inspection there was no responsible, knowledgeable, and readily identifiable attendant or employee present for the male camel and giraffe during periods of public contact. A couple (man and woman) approached the far-right side of the camel's enclosure and took turns petting and photographing themselves with him. Upon my approach to the giraffe's enclosure, there was a family (husband, wife, and child) petting the giraffe (in the area between his enclosure and the arcade building). After the family left, the giraffe was also able to reach his head and neck out to where I was standing (the same area as the family), providing me the opportunity to pet him without an attendant present. Lack of a responsible, knowledgeable, and readily identifiable attendant or employee during periods of public contact, especially since both animals are accustomed to public feedings, pose a significant risk to the health and well-being of both the animals and the public. A responsible, knowledgeable, and readily identifiable attendant or employee must always be present during periods of public contact.

Correct by: September 22, 2023

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Prepared By: GERVAIS EDMONDS-WIGGINS Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL

**OFFICER** 

Received by Title: Facility Representative Date:

17-SEP-2023

17-SEP-2023

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care



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Inspection Date: 12-Sep-2023

# **Species Inspected**

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
6002705	74-C-1129	002	Houston Interactive	12-SEP-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	Giraffa camelopardalis	GIRAFFE
000004	Aonyx cinereus	ORIENTAL SMALL-CLAWED OTTER
000001	Camelus dromedarius	DROMEDARY CAMEL
000006	Total	