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Eliminating Long-range and “Dangerous” Wild Animals from Entertainment Demonstrations in New York State

Pace University Academy for Applied Environmental Studies
& the Committee to Ban Wild and Exotic Animal Acts

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I. SYNOPSIS

Pace University Academy for Applied Environmental Studies (Pace Academy) and the Committee to Ban Wild and Exotic Animal Acts (The Committee) are calling for a New York State ban on the use of certain wild and exotic animals in entertainment acts, such as circuses. To be clear, we are not advocating for circuses *per se* to be banned, but rather the disallowance of certain “dangerous” wild animals for entertainment purposes in New York State. Nor are we advocating for the ban or regulation of ownership of “dangerous” wild animals. Pursuant to the United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), such “dangerous animals” include: elephants, lions, tigers, bears/polar bears, wolves, cougars, leopards, jaguars, nonhuman primates, and rhinos. An exemption is strongly encouraged for organizations with the mission of conservation education, organizations that support the propagation and reintroduction of exotic animals into the wild or designated sanctuaries, or that otherwise promote a harmonious relationship between humans and nature in a way that respects the natural dignity of the animals.

Pace Academy and The Committee propose that the New York State legislature approach this ban in *one* of the following ways:

- i. Legislation expressly banning the use of “dangerous” wild animals in traveling circuses and exhibitions.
- ii. Legislation expressly banning wild “dangerous animals,” identified in the USDA list above, from entertainment acts taking place in New York.
- iii. Legislation expressly banning the use of cruel and inhumane animal training devices, such as bull hooks, ankus, electric prods, and whips used in animal entertainment acts in New York.

Traveling circuses with wild animals acts pose an inherent public safety risk. Constant confinement for 11 months a year, inability to perform natural behaviors, and the cruel and inhumane training practices that are endured by the animals are inextricably linked to public safety because of the increased likelihood of rampage or retaliation at unpredictable times, especially when the animal is performing or interacting with the public. Circus animal trainers have no contingency plan for getting a rampaging 3-6 ton elephant or 500 pound tiger under control in such hazardous situations and may rely on local law enforcement to shoot the animal many times in order to bring it down.

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA), enforced by the USDA, creates only minimum standards for the handling, care, treatment, and transport of animals in traveling exhibits. Most state and local agencies defer to the already overburdened USDA for matters concerning wild and exotic animals in circuses. To wit, standards regulated by the AWA are poorly enforced due, in part, to lack of resources; 120 USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service inspectors are responsible for over 11,000 regulated facilities. Thus, violations are commonplace, penalties are weak and even persistent violators are rarely prosecuted.

Moreover, the Animal Welfare Act does not prohibit any kind of training method, including the use of whips, bull hooks, electric prods, or other devices that cause suffering. In fact, no government agency monitors training sessions, where performing animals are often abused behind the scenes.

The trend toward non-animal, human-centered performances in circuses is clear worldwide. Currently, there are national bans on the use of wild animals in circuses in Austria, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Hungary, Israel, Paraguay, Peru, and Singapore. Additionally, national legislation has been enacted banning certain species from travelling circuses in Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, India, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, and Sweden. Significant local bans have been implemented across Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ireland, Spain, and the UK. Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Greece have gone so far as to prohibit the use of all animals in circuses. The UK and Scottish Parliaments have committed to ban non-domesticated animals in traveling circuses, though legislation has not yet been passed.

Circuses that do not include “dangerous animal” performers are not only thriving, but on the rise. The renowned and influential not-for-profit, Big Apple Circus (based in New York City) has been entertaining audiences for more than a decade without exotic and wild animals. Research by Pace University’s Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship indicates that when the Big Apple Circus eliminated its elephants from the show in 2000, the non-profit’s revenues were unaffected through 2010. In addition, Cirque du Soleil is arguably the most popular circus in the world and known for its human-only performances. The shows employ approximately 5,000 people from over 50 countries and generate an estimated annual revenue exceeding \$810 million. Since 1984, one hundred million people have been delighted by Cirque worldwide despite the fact that this circus has no animal performers.

The decline in animal circuses appears to have leveled out to a small audience, sustaining a handful of operations. Animal Defense International has found that as animal circuses close, the trend is that animal-free circuses replace them. For example, between 1996 and 2000, the number of UK animal circuses plunged from 22 to 11, while the number of animal-free circuses rose from 9 to 23. Even zoos, with animal trainers who have advanced degrees in wildlife biology are acknowledging that they are not able to properly care for the physiological and behavioral needs of elephants, and that their resources would be better spent on conservation efforts in the wild. To date, eighteen zoos have closed their elephant exhibits and four are phasing out their exhibits, including the Bronx Zoo.

II. ISSUES WITH “DANGEROUS” WILD ANIMALS IN ENTERTAINMENT

a. Traveling Circuses and Animal Confinement

Animals used in circuses may travel thousands of miles a year—often nine to eleven months annually. Throughout travel, they are confined to boxcars and trailers and often have no access to basic necessities, such as food, water, and veterinary care. Tigers and lions usually live and travel in cages that are 4' x 7' x 7', with two big cats crammed into

a single cage. Big cats, bears, and primates are forced to eat, drink, sleep, defecate, and urinate in the same cramped cages. Constant travel, forced inactivity, and long hours standing on hard surfaces in their own waste lead to serious health problems and early death in captive elephants.

When circus animals are traveling in cold climate regions (such as New York in February), they are kept indoors for much longer periods and thus in more confined spaces. For example, elephant indoor quarters are a 20' x 20' cubicle, for an animal that is in constant motion in the wild.

Some elephants spend most of their lives in chains (up to 20 consecutive hours at performance venues and up to 100 hours continuously when traveling). When not performing or on the road, elephants are still chained in parking lots, arena basements, trailers, or boxcars. The evidence shows that when the elephants are chained, their movement is extremely restricted. Most of the elephants are chained on two alternate legs—one front and one back leg—with the chains anchored to metal rings that are embedded in concrete flooring in front of and behind each elephant. As a result, the elephants can only move a few feet in each direction. (*ASPCA, et al. v. Feld Entertainment, Inc.*, Civ. No. 03-2006, p. 21 para. 8)

In the wild, elephants travel up to 30 miles a day and are active for 18-20 hours out of each 24-hour day. When they have sufficient food, they move even *more* (discounting the argument that captive elephants that are well fed do not need to move as much as their wild counterparts). Biologically, elephants *need* to move. Those in captivity that are chained and confined develop serious foot problems, which ultimately can kill them, often shortening their lives in captivity by 20+ years (longevity in the wild is greater than 40 years vs. average life span in captivity is 14 years). The number one health problem in captive elephants is foot problems; in the wild this is nonexistent. Higher elephant mortality in captivity is also attributable to obesity due to lack of movement. According to testimony from Feld Entertainment Inc.'s (Ringling Bros. circus) own manager of the Center for Elephant Conservation, elephants maintained there spend a minimum of 16 hours a day chained on two legs in a concrete "barn," while other elephants spend up to 22 1/2 hours each day chained on concrete, and "[n]one of the males [ever] go out on the grass." (*ASPCA et al. v. Feld Entertainment, Inc.* Civ. No. 03-2006, p. 22 para. 15)

A circus cage is more than a million times smaller than a tiger's natural roaming range. Depending on habitat, a tiger's territory can range between 6 – 20 miles to roam and hunt whereas in traveling circuses, their cages are typically 12' x 12' x 10' or smaller. They live in diverse habitats in the wild that offer thick forests, tall grasses, and savannahs. Tigers are one of the few species of cats that enjoy the water. By contrast, in circuses, big cats spend their whole lives in cages, often pacing. Captivity has such a profoundly negative effect on big cats that, in October 2003, British researchers with Oxford University published a study in the journal *Nature* concluding that wide-ranging carnivores should not be kept in captivity. According to one of the scientists, Dr. Ros Clubb, "This kind of repetitive behavior [pacing] is really indicative of poor psychological well-being." (Clubb, 2003)

A recent study out of the University of Bristol has concluded that “[N]on-domesticated animals, suitable for circus life, should exhibit low space requirements, simple social structures, low cognitive function, non-specialist ecological requirements and an ability to be transported without adverse welfare effects.” (Iossa et al., p. 137) The typical species utilized by traveling circuses are elephants, tigers, bears and non-human primates – none of which are “suitable” according to the Iossa et al., research (and countless other studies). It is not surprising that the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums is against the inappropriate keeping of such animals in circuses. (Id. at 129) Additionally, the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums does not permit its member establishments to supply animals to circuses. (Id.)

b. Training Wild Animal Circus Performers

Circuses force animals to perform acts that have nothing to do with how they behave in the wild. For example, the difficult tricks that elephants must perform, such as standing on two legs, sitting on tubs, or waving their trunks, place a great deal of stress on their muscles and joints. Elephant experts and veterinarians agree that elephants will not voluntarily perform these physically taxing and painful maneuvers on command, over and over, hundreds of times a year without the constant threat of punishment. No form of positive reinforcement alone will elicit such unnatural behaviors. According to Sam Haddock, ex-circus employee and elephant trainer, “Based on my experience, these violent training methods are the only way an elephant can be trained to perform certain tricks required for a circus act.” (Haddock, para. 18)

It should always be remembered that these animals are wild animals, regardless where and how they are maintained. As stated by Dr. Colleen McCann, Curator of Primates at the Bronx Zoo following the Stamford, CT pet chimpanzee attack in February 2009:

At the end of the day, they are not human and you can't always predict their behavior and how they or **any other wild animal** [emphasis added] will respond when they feel threatened ... the wild animal came out with a vengeance ... chimpanzees are unpredictable and dangerous even after living among humans for years ... I will say that it's deceiving to think that if any animal is 'well behaved' around humans that means there is no risk involved to humans for potential outbursts of behavior. (Christofferson, 2009)

Experts agree that because these are wild animals, they will never be completely predictable when performing unnatural stunts, so trainers use brute force to maintain a position of dominance. The animals perform out of fear. It is standard and accepted practice that training most long-range wild animals to perform tricks requires negative reinforcement using bull hooks, whips, tight collars, muzzles, electric prods and other tools. “Bull hooks” or “ankuses” are approximately three-foot long clubs with sharp metal hooks on the end.

An undercover investigation in March 1999 yielded video of vicious elephant beatings at Carson & Barnes Circus. Tim Frisco, longtime elephant trainer and circus contractor

was caught on tape violently attacking elephants with electric prods and bull hooks until they screamed; trainers are instructed by Frisco to hurt the elephants until they scream, “holler,” and run away; to use both hands to beat the elephants with a bull hook; and to sink the pointed hook into the elephant's flesh and twist it back and forth until they scream in pain. He also warns the trainer to conceal the beatings from the public (“You can’t do it on the road...I’m not going to touch her in front of a thousand people.”). Notably, Tim Frisco is an animal trainer who contracts with Hanneford Circus, a circus that annually visits New York, for their performing elephants. The video is available at:

http://www.petatv.com/tvpopup/video.asp?video=training_tragedy&Player=qt
(Elephants in Circus: Training & Tragedy)

While performing in the ring, an elephant responds to verbal commands from a trainer carrying a bull hook and moderate pressure from the bull hook because the elephant has been conditioned through violent training sessions; refusal to obey in the ring will result in severe punishment later. The pain inflicted by a bull hook is used as a reminder to the elephant of its initial breaking, which is a traumatic process. It is used continuously by circus trainers to poke, prod, pull, jab, strike, hit, and “hook” the elephants on various sensitive parts of their bodies in order to make the elephants do as they are told and to “correct,” “discipline,” and punish them for disobeying commands.² Moments before entering the ring, while out of view of the public, trainers give the elephants a few painful whacks to remind them of who is in control and ensure that the elephants perform tricks on command. A video of such routine practice can be viewed here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ECspj0daAIE> (Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus: Undercover Investigation Reveals that Ringling Beats Elephants)

Because a dispirited elephant submits to a dominant trainer toting a bull hook, circuses mislead the public with claims that a bull hook is only used to guide or cue an elephant.

Other standard training methods for long-range wild animal performers include burning bears' front paws in order to get them to dance on their back legs and muzzling and chaining bears and big cats in order to break their spirits. Sometimes, animals' teeth are removed in order to make them more 'trainable,' further contributing to confined animals' helplessness. Animals are often intentionally kept unhealthy and miserable; a trainer with Royal Hanneford Circus admitted to the USDA that he keeps chimps in solitary confinement so they will be more 'motivated' to perform when let out. (See Appendix A, Hanneford Family Circus Factsheet, 2008)

Most elephants used by circuses were captured in the wild. Baby elephants are forcibly removed from their mothers, often before they are weaned, and the remainder of their lives in captivity consists of little more than chains and intimidation. “Breaking” the young elephants entails tying their legs with ropes and keeping them in isolation until

² In his affidavit, long-time circus employee and elephant trainer Sam Haddock states, “The bullhook is designed for one purpose, and one purpose only, to inflict pain and punishment.” (Haddock, para 60)

they learn to fear their trainers. Photos documenting the process are available at: <http://www.ringlingbeatsanimals.com/bound-babies.asp> (Ringling's Baby Elephants Tied Up and Electro-Shocked by Trainers). Sam Haddock, a former employee of Ringling and other circuses over twenty-eight years took these photos while employed at Ringling between 2001-2002. An accompanying affidavit from Haddock described how baby elephants are pulled from their mothers between 18-24 months of age and then restrained with ropes for 23 hours a day until they stop struggling (which can take up to six months). (Haddock, para. 18)

It is well known that elephants are among the most socially bonded animals on the planet, developing strong bonds with other members of their herd. They enjoy submerging their enormous bodies in cooling ponds and scratching against trees and rocks to keep their skin healthy. In the circus, every aspect of their behavior is controlled. Engaging in natural behaviors as simple as throwing dirt on their backs or reaching out with their trunks to connect with a friend can result in a beating. Beatings—or the threat of beatings—dominate their daily existence.

Routine abuse of circus elephants has been recounted by former circus employees who witnessed the abuse and quit their jobs because of it. Affidavits of five previous Ringling Brothers employees can be viewed on Born Free USA's website containing Trial Documents from *ASPCA, et al. v. Feld Entertainment, Inc.* (2009).³ Though such "testimony" is plentiful, circus employees often describe how circus owners frown upon internal complaints of animal abuse concerns and how the owners manipulate records of employees once they have left in order to set the stage for a "disgruntled employee" case if previous circus workers go public about the realities of how circus animals are treated. Thus it is likely that many more present and past employees would reveal the inappropriate and cruel handling of circus animals if they did not feel intimidated by management.

Circuses conceal cruelty to animal performers that a well-informed public would never support.

c. Consequences of Physiological Stressors in Wild Captive Animals

Experts consider a "stressor" to an animal as an actual, physical challenge to homeostasis ("steady state"), or the threat of such a challenge. Examples of physical challenges are exposure to sudden change in temperature and physical restraint. The threat of physical challenges might include a direct stare from a more dominant animal (humans in the case of circus trainers), or even the approach of a human (circus audiences). Stressors create a cascade of physiological events that are designed to

³ In *ASPCA, et al. v. Feld Entertainment, Inc.* (2009), a federal judge dismissed the case on grounds that the plaintiffs lacked standing to pursue their claims. The Court did not address any of the merits of the case. This suit was brought under the Endangered Species Act against Ringling Brothers circus for allegedly violating the statute by cruelly mistreating Asian elephants through routine practices, such as forceful use of a bull hook and the chaining of elephants for excessively long periods.

prepare the body for homeostatic challenge - the “fight or flight” response. Sustained over time, these physiological events can be fraught with danger to the long-term health of a captive animal. Among the responses to chronic, long-term stresses are: **increased aggression**, increased self-injury, and immunosuppression. (Morgan and Tromborg, p. 263-264)

Captivity-related stressors, common in circus environments have been identified in scientific literature as:

- Interference or prevention of animals’ engagement in species-typical behaviors, for which they have a “behavioral need” (meaning they are internally motivated) (e.g., deprivation of foraging) (Morgan and Tromborg, 264, 283)(Clubb and Mason, 2007, p. 305)
- Actions over which animals have no control and from which they cannot escape (e.g., harsh training methods typical of circuses) (Morgan and Tromborg, p. 264)
- Temperature fluctuations that differ significantly from their wild home range origins (e.g., elephants and Bengal tigers in New York during a winter) (Id. at 272)
- Inappropriate surface substrate materials (e.g., concrete) that vary in their hardness and resistance to compressions and thus in the stress they put on legs and joints (Id. at 274)
- Confinement of carnivores in small spaces, especially those species with large home range sizes in the wild, which increases stereotypic behavior such as pacing (e.g., current cage sizes in the United States for captive animals are based primarily on arbitrary professional judgment, and not on empirical analysis) (Id. at 277) (Clubb and Mason, 2007, p. 305)
- Handling by humans alone is stressful to animals and has been used as an operational definition of stress in many studies (Morgan and Tromborg, p. 281)
- Psychological stress has been described as one of the most potent stressors, with detrimental effects on behavior, physiology, and overall health, including immune responses. (Brown, et al., p. 133)

The Special Case of Elephant

It is widely agreed by zoologists and wildlife biologists that there is a great disparity between what elephants need and what can be provided in captivity.

Social Needs:

Elephants are complex, social animals that live in large, multi-generational family-based herds in the wild. In captivity, there are typically less than three individuals housed together and they are not based on family groups. Calves are rarely born in captivity

and infant mortality is often high. In circuses, social bonding is not allowed and antagonism can create management problems leading to chronic social stress for the animal. (Brown et al., 122)

Use of Chaining: When captive elephants are not engaged in activities coordinated by trainers, they are chained for extensive periods of time—up to 22 hours per day. (Id.)

According to Brown et al., studies have focused on the effect of chaining on stereotypic behaviors such as weaving, head bobbing, and trunk tossing. “Circuses, for example, often chain the diagonal legs of elephants in picket lines when they are not performing. As reported by Friend (1999), the amount of stereotypic behavior exhibited by individual elephants varied but seemed to be consistent with each individual. By contrast, maintaining the same circus elephants unchained in an electrified paddock reduced stereotypic behavior.” At an orphanage in Sri Lanka, researchers found that young Asian elephants rapidly developed stereotypical maladjusted behaviors when chained. (Brown et al., p. 130)

Harsh Physical Training:

Training an untamed elephant is referred to as “breaking.” Because older elephants recently captured from the wild have already established some level of dominance status in their own herd hierarchy, they are difficult to break. Elephant trainers therefore prefer breaking wild-born calves. During the breaking period, the trainer establishes dominance over the elephant as quickly as possible, which may involve repeated exposure to abusive practices, such as beatings with sticks or hooks, restriction of movement, and denial of food, water, and sleep. “Under these conditions, acute stress responses such as severe diarrhea and vocalizations undoubtedly indicate suffering.” (Id. at 131)

Physical, abusive training methods are employed long after the initial breaking period. As previously mentioned, using the same bull hook tool throughout the elephant performer’s life reinforces the traumatic breaking period and continues to inflict pain when implemented in particularly sensitive areas (behind the ears, legs, face and genital areas).

As ex-elephant trainer, Sam Haddock describes in his 2009 Affidavit, elephant beatings are part of circus life:

...Major [bull elephant] knocked me down at Circus World. I walked into the barn to throw down hay. Major lunged forward and got me on the head with his trunk and tried to gore me with his one tusk. I was knocked into the barn wall. I went behind Major and beat him for five minutes with a bull hook and used a hot shot. I took a break, then beat him more. I laid him down and hooked him repeatedly in his ear canal. The second beating lasted ten minutes. Major was screaming bloody murder. (Haddock, 2009, para. 47)

According to Brown et al., ***“Whether continued harsh training elicits reaction, or feelings, akin to resentment is another concern. Such responses may explain why elephants attack or kill elephant keepers and mahouts.”*** (p. 133)

In the wild, the largest and eldest female in an elephant herd (the matriarch) is dominant. Though adult males are more solitary, they will compete with each other for access to breeding females. Losers of aggressive interactions *retreat* to show their subordinate position. “It is not natural for an individual of lesser stature, such as a human, to dominate an elephant – and when this does happen, the animal is placed in the unusual situation of being deprived of the option to retreat from an aggressor, namely the trainer.” In circus training, an elephant may become aggressive and refuse to obey, which is punished by the trainer using the above-described cruel and painful means. If the animal has the opportunity, it may become more aggressive and attack the trainer, causing injury or death. Researchers do not yet fully understand the psychological impact of dominance-oriented breaking methods on the psychological welfare of elephants. (Brown et al., p. 132)

As stated on the website of Animal Defenders International, “Regardless of whether it is the UK, Europe, South America or the USA, no other part of the entertainment industry is so routinely associated with violence towards animals.” (Animal Defenders International, 2009)

Decreased Life Span in Captivity:

A recent study conducted by a team of researchers⁴ compiled data from 4500 elephants to compare survivorship in zoos with protected populations in wild range countries. Though the focus of the study was on European zoos, North American data was also analyzed. The findings indicate that adult female elephants of both Asian and African species have shorter lives in zoos than in protected *in situ* populations. (Clubb et al., 2009, p. 237)

Specifically, the median lifespan for zoo-born female African elephants is 16.9 years versus 56.0 years for females in the Amboseli National Park, Africa. Similarly, the median lifespan of captive born female Asian elephants in zoos is 18.9 years versus 41.7 years in the wild range country of Burma. (Clubb et al., 2008, p. 1649)

As previously established, zoo and circus elephants are often subject to treatments known or likely to elevate stress, such as chaining and translocation. Researchers suggest that stress early in life can have lasting deleterious effects such as exposure to elevated stress hormones *in utero* and/or inadequate parental care in infancy which may disrupt stress responses throughout life, as well as elevate stress-related disease and ultimately shorten lifespan. (Clubb et al., 2009, p. 244)

⁴ The study team included: R. Clubb, Wildlife Dept. of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; M. Rowcliffe, Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London; P. Lee, Dept. of Psychology, University of Stirling (UK) and Amboseli Elephant Trust; KU Mar, Dept. of Animal and Plant Science, University of Sheffield (UK); C. Moss, Amboseli Elephant Trust; and GJ Mason, Animal Science Dept., University of Guelph (Canada).

Overall, Clubb et al. conclude that bringing elephants into zoos (captivity) profoundly impairs their viability. Health and reproductive problems recorded in zoo elephants suggest stress and/or obesity as likely causes. (Clubb et al., 2008, p. 1649)

It is telling that the widest ranging species, such as elephants, seem to be faring far worse in zoos than one would expect given that they receive routine veterinary care, ample food, and there is no predation. (Clubb and Mason, 2006, p. 22) The stress these animals endure is clearly having an adverse physiological impact. Elephant experts are speaking out in increasing numbers about how the spatial, family-oriented social and environmental needs of elephants cannot be met by urban zoos (and certainly not traveling circuses). (In Defense of Animals)

Experts are also acknowledging the role of fear – from the inability to escape a fearful stimulus to chronic stress of negative, painful handling methods – and how the sustained, chronic state of distress can affect an animal’s behavior. (Laule, p. 121-122)

d. Animal Welfare Act and Regulation of Wild, Exotic Animals

The federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) is the primary form of protection afforded to circus animals. (7 U.S.C. §§ 2131-2159) Unfortunately, the AWA creates only minimum housing and maintenance standards for animals in traveling exhibits and it is poorly enforced at that. For example, the AWA mandates that animals have enough room to stand up and turn around, but violations of even this basic standard are commonplace. Persistent violators are rarely prosecuted, and those who are usually only face fines.

Enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act is the sole responsibility of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Though the USDA federally licenses circuses, they are not exempt from state and local laws. However, most state and local agencies defer to the already overburdened USDA for matters concerning exotic animals in circuses. Some state and local agencies have special permit requirements for circuses, but rarely do they inspect and monitor the treatment of animals to determine compliance with local cruelty statutes. Local humane societies will often not investigate cruelty complaints against circuses because they feel that they have little knowledge of exotic animals and would be unable to place exotic animals if there were a dire situation that required that they be confiscated.

Notably, the Animal Welfare Act does not prohibit any kind of training method, including the use of whips, bull hooks, electric prods, or other devices that cause suffering. However, regulations issued by the USDA under the Animal Welfare Act do stipulate that “[p]hysical abuse shall not be used to train, work, or otherwise handle animals,” and that the “[h]andling of all animals shall be done . . . in a manner that does not cause trauma . . . behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.” 9 C.F.R. §2.131(b). The difficulty for enforcement of these regulations is that no agency monitors training sessions, during which animals may be beaten behind the scenes. It is common that rehearsals while on the road (and thus “public”) are entirely different

from the more significant training, where the animal learns its routine, which goes on in the permanent training center, behind closed doors. Additionally, the nature of traveling circus means that a troupe moves on quickly to another state before a complaint can even be investigated locally. Moreover, cruelty to animals is usually considered a misdemeanor and is not a high priority for local law enforcement.

Although inspections by the USDA are supposed to be unannounced, ex-employees of circuses have testified in court that the circus always knows in advance when inspectors are coming.⁵

The USDA has about 120 inspectors who are responsible for over 11,000 licensed facilities nationwide, which means that most facilities are inspected only once every 2-3 years. (USDA, Animal Care and AWA Inspection Information) In fact, APHIS guidelines on inspections advise inspectors, “You do not have to inspect every circus or traveling exhibitor that exhibits in your territory” (USDA-APHIS Animal Care Resource Guide, Exhibitor Inspection Guide, 2004, 17.10.1).

In 2005, the USDA’s Office of the Inspector General issued a report stating that animal welfare officials in the department’s Eastern region (which covers all licensees east of the Mississippi River) were “lax” in punishing zoos and other facilities where people or animals are endangered. (USDA, Office of Inspector General Audit Report, 2005) and (Quaid, 2005)

However, on November 28, 2011, Feld Entertainment Inc., which produces Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus received a record penalty of \$270,000 from the USDA for violations of the Animal Welfare Act from 2007–2011. This enforcement action was likely the result of numerous undercover videos obtained by animal advocacy organizations.

e. Public Safety Risk

Using “dangerous animals” in performances jeopardizes public safety and often puts children at greatest risk. See Appendix B for an up-to-date list of circus incidents involving elephants, tigers, bears and non-human primates since 1990. In July 2010, an elephant trainer at the Toledo Zoo was attacked by a 7-year elephant and suffered life-threatening injuries. The trainer, Don Redfox, is a 30-year veteran of the zoo staff. Posturing of the elephant in a video of the attack (released by the Toledo Zoo) suggests clear intent to harm.

Given the realities of the daily physical and psychological stress that wild, exotic animals endure in circus environments, it is fortunate that there are not more injuries and death to audience members and circus personnel.

⁵ According to an Affidavit of Tom Rider (July 20, 2000), PL 04458 (“[d]uring my employment at Ringling Brothers, we always knew a few days a head of time (up to a week in advance) of any USDA inspections”); Affidavit of Robert Tom, Jr., API 6240 (the animal crew was alerted “an hour beforehand that the USDA is coming”) (Exhibit B, The Plaintiffs’ Second Amended Pre-Trial Statement, pg. 31, para. 11, 2008)

A 2006 study published in the *International Zoo Yearbook* entitled “A Review of Injuries Caused by Elephants in Captivity: An Examination of Predominant Factors” provides a post-hoc systematic analysis of elephant-related injuries to keepers and visitors for a period of 1988-2003 in numerous countries. Among the pertinent findings:

- Zoo-born elephants that attack may have lost ‘respect’ for the keeper and become relatively aggressive as a result. (Gore et al., p. 58)
- Females elephants over 20 years old appear to be a particularly dangerous group as they may not have shown signs of aggression earlier and the keeper would not then be anticipating an attack. Hormonal changes around this age may suggest a correlation. (Id. at 58)
- Some elephant managers have speculated that Asian elephants tend to plan their attack, waiting for an opportunity to arise, while African elephants tend to lash out aggressively and more suddenly. (Id. at 60)
- More often than not, injuries appear to be caused deliberately, rather than by accident (Id. at 61), which counters circus trainers’ claims that attacking elephants are “playing” with their trainer.
- The first attack is often to be pushed against a wall and kicked with elephant’s foot. Elephants often use their trunk to hit their victim and their heads to push them over. Once the person is on the ground the elephants will kill them by standing on them. (Id. at 60) Video footage of a rampaging elephant (Tyke) at a Hawaii circus demonstrates this above described tendency. See: <http://www.riskmanagementmonitor.com/when-circus-animals-kill/>
- Injuries inflicted were most frequently either very serious or resulted in death. (Gore et al., 206, p. 61)

Based on this 2006 study, the authors conclude that the greatest likelihood of being injured by an elephants is when using the free/direct contact system (as is necessarily used in circuses). An astonishing 100 handlers are killed per year in Thailand using the free/direct contact system. (Id. at 60) The authors also suggest that having more than one keeper or handler does not appear to guarantee safety. New trainers are particularly vulnerable to attack, probably as a result of their lack of experience and knowledge, which is particularly troubling for circuses considering the revolving door of circus staff who have no prior animal expertise. For those zoos that have not yet phased out their elephants exhibits, there is a trend toward protected/no contact management systems where handlers care for the elephants without direct contact. (Id. at 61)

Free/direct contact with dangerous animals presents such a risk that the USDA, in their “Animal Care Resource Guide,” calls for sufficient distance or barriers between the animals and the public to maintain a safe environment. However, they render this

safety concern meaningless by giving exhibitors the right to offer direct contact with these animals for rides and photo opportunities. (USDA-APHIS Regulations, 2.131, Policy #27, Animal Care Resource Guide, Exhibitor Inspection Guide, 12.4.2 – 12.4.4)

Given the number and serious injuries of elephant incidents, it is no surprise that the American Zoological Society strongly discourages public contact with elephants, such as elephant rides and photo opportunities, for safety reasons.

No contingency plan

It is alarming that based on incident reports, videos, and discussions with local governments, law enforcement, and advocacy groups, circuses have no emergency plan for wild animal rampages and attacks. Circus personnel cannot even protect themselves, let alone the general public, once an elephant rebels against a trainer's physical dominance.

The consequence of this public safety hazard is evidenced by testimony from retired Florida police officer, Blayne Doyle, who was personally involved in a 1992 circus elephant attack on the trainer and subsequent rampage into the parking lot while 5 children were on her back. The only available means of stopping her from injuring people was to shoot the elephant 34 times as she ran back toward the circus tent. Ultimately, 55 rounds of 9mm ammunition finally brought the elephant down. However, it was not until the SWAT team arrived and fired two armor piercing rounds that the elephant was killed. Doyle concludes in his June 8, 2009 letter to the Westchester County Board of Legislators, "It has happened before, it has happened since, and ladies and gentleman, I guarantee you it will happen again." See full letter in Appendix C. In 1994, an elephant's deadly rampage lasted an hour in downtown Honolulu. Police department-issued semi-automatic pistols were useless, and a zoo veterinarian's lethal injections had no effect. The police finally located a high-powered counter-sniper rifle and fired three rounds into her heart. She was ultimately shot 87 times. A video of Tyke's circus rampage can be viewed at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ym7MS4I7znQ> (Elephant Goes on Rampage)

Wild animal attacks and rampages are random and unexpected. The above-described scenarios could just as easily happen in any of the small arenas frequently used by the circuses in New York, where matters would be even worse given the elephants would be completely enclosed with the public in the building. Notably, the trainer that was attacked in Blayne Doyle's 1992 account was Tim Frisco, who continues to contract with the Royal Hanneford Circus for their touring elephants.

f. Lack of Educational Value

Those who argue wild animals in circuses are "ambassadors" for their wild populations are misguided. Circuses do not serve as accurate educational tools for children. Contrary to circus industry claims that animals are trained to perform tricks they might naturally perform in the wild, costumed bears riding bicycles, tigers jumping through flames, or elephants walking on their hind legs and balancing on their heads, are not

natural behaviors.

Circuses do not provide a realistic educational tool for children. The circus context is devoid of wild animal behavior patterns, social interactions, hunting instinct, maternal care giving, food gathering, and migration. Within the artificial context of circuses, performing animals are mere shells of those ranging in their natural habitat; circus animals do not act, look or behave like those in the wild. Elephants in particular are sick and depressed outside of their social groups.

Whether at the zoo, at school or on The Discovery Channel's Animal Planet, our children learn that wild animals live complex and fascinating lives. Through circuses, children are "entertained" by broken-spirited animals reacting to a stressful and unnatural environment. Therefore, when children are exposed to the negative and inaccurate messages circuses send, it contradicts the more valuable lessons of ecosystem function, habitat, animal behavior and conservation.

Circuses perpetuate an outdated attitude that wild animals are ours to use at any cost to their welfare. Consequentially, the circus performance distorts the realities of the animals, many of which are endangered species like the Asian elephant, chimpanzee, or Bengal tiger, all at serious risk of extinction in the wild.

Keeping them in chains and forcing them to perform unnatural tricks for our amusement conveys the wrong message - that it is acceptable behavior to abuse and torment other living beings. The use of performing wild animals can desensitize people, especially young, impressionable children. One consequence of such exposure is the potential encouragement of dangerous aberrant behavior. Indeed, child psychologists warn that watching animals being hit, prodded, injured, and humiliated for entertainment desensitizes children to the suffering of others.

When the Kelly-Miller Circus recently performed for the Town of Southeast in June 2010, several local citizens (largely parents), expressed their disapproval of the use of wild animal performers. Two of such letters are below:

As a parent in your district who is trying to raise my children to have respect for all sentient beings, I am very disturbed at your sponsorship of a circus that profits from the misery of animals. I refer, of course, to the Kelly-Miller Circus that is scheduled to appear in Brewster. What kind of message does that send our young people, that it's acceptable to treat animals in a cruel, undignified way for human pleasure and profit? I urge you to reconsider your endorsement of this circus. As the head of our schools, you are someone the children look to for guidance and you are implicitly telling them that it is not only acceptable but pleasurable to deny animals their basic rights to life.

– Lisa Aurello, Southeast, NY
(letter sent to School Superintendent)

The notion that we should remove these animals from their natural habitats and parade them before us for our own selfish amusement is not only immoral but **educationally unsound**.

We should be stressing the importance of teaching children to appreciate the role animals play in their habitat. Animals are an integral part of the web of life and must be preserved in order to protect the health of ecosystems throughout the world. The rate of species extinction is increasing at an alarming rate and threatening species diversity. Removing animals from these habitats has long become a practice that is unacceptable to the educated scientific community. Circus entertainment contributes greatly to this very serious problem and we should not be supporting them.

– Ray Mainiero (published in *Putnam Press*, (June 2010)

III. WORLDWIDE AND DOMESTIC TREND TOWARD NON-ANIMAL CIRCUSES

a. History of the Circus: A Trend Toward Human Performance Entertainment

The original traveling circuses did not include wild animals and even recent trends point toward non-animal circuses that highlight human artists and performers.

The modern circus can be traced back to Philip Astley, a British sergeant major and horseback rider who established a riding school near Westminster Bridge in 1768. After his discharge from the military, Astley taught riding in the mornings and gave performances demonstrating his riding skills in the afternoon. He rode in a circular arena to give his audiences a good view (the word “circus” is derived from a Latin term meaning “circle”). Clowns were introduced in 1770, as well as musicians and other human performers, marking the commonly agreed-upon birth of the modern circus. Charles Hughes, a former employee of Astley and then rival horseman, first used the term “circus” to describe his competing production when he opened the “Royal Circus and Equestrian Philharmonic Academy” in 1782. The term describes an enclosed space for displaying horsemanship and a round circular space. The circus came to the United States in 1793 when John Bill Rickets, an English equestrian rider, used a ring and added acrobats, a ropewalker and a clown to his equestrian act. (Huey, p. 1 and Big Apple Circus, p. 7)

The Big Apple Circus, is a classic circus where the four-legged performers are all horses and small dogs (i.e., no long-range wild animals). This not-for-profit circus began over 30 years ago in Battery Park, New York City. In 1977, the New York School for Circus Arts was established as a non-profit institution for training aspiring circus artists. By 1981, the Big Apple Circus had landed in the parking lot of the prestigious Lincoln Center in New York’s Upper West Side, adapted the location as home and for the past three decades has earned the coveted title of New York’s native-son circus. (Huey, p. 8 and Big Apple Circus, p. 12)

The Pickle Family Circus was formed by a group of artists in 1975. An expanded troupe of jugglers, acrobats, unicyclists, and jazz musicians, The Pickle Family Circus performed on a stage with side curtains and a backdrop. This circus was unique in that it delivered a message of strong commitment to community action, social inclusion, and performance arts through its human performers. (Huey, p. 7-8)

The most important change in circuses took place in the mid.-1980s, when Cirque du Soleil began its modern interpretations of the circus, minus rings and animals. Cirque du Soleil, a Canadian-based circus, had a tremendous influence on the American circus industry. With unique artistic flair, Cirque du Soleil featured state-of-the-art costumes, sets and acrobatics set to music. Today 19 shows are running worldwide. Like other nouveau circuses, Cirque du Soleil's roots can be traced to a small band of actors and street performers who dreamed of creating a new kind of circus. It was an immediate success, and within three decades, Cirque du Soleil grew to become the world's largest and most dominant circus corporation, and a standard bearer of the nouveau circus. (Cirque du Soleil)

Even Kenneth Feld, owner and CEO of Feld Entertainment, Inc. (which owns Ringling Brothers, Barnum & Bailey Circus), paid close attention to the increased popularity of the nouveau circus. In 1991 he recruited Italian Clown David Larible to take over the headliner position for Ringling's red unit after the retirement of animal trainer superstar Gunther Gebel-Williams, marking the first time in Ringling's long history that a single clown was marketed as the star of the show. **"The levity of a clown in the spotlight - as opposed to the seriousness of the animal trainer - won the hearts of Ringling circus-goers,"** and in 2000 American-born clown stuntman Bello Nock was hired as the headliner clown of the blue unit. [emphasis added] Larible performed with Ringling through the 2005 season, and Nock played through 2008 before returning as the single star of the Big Apple Circus. (Huey, p. 9)

"The look of the circus changed dramatically throughout its 200+ year history. Freak shows were completely abandoned and performing animals were largely phased out. Even the circus parade, a high-energy display that announced the circus had come to town, which was one of its most iconic spectacles, was abandoned in the early 1900s because of civic and economic pressures." (Loring)

b. Today's Circuses

Through a series of newspaper circus reviews from 1993-2004, outlined in PETA's "State of the Circus Industry" factsheet (See Appendix D), evidence is presented that attendance is declining at circuses that use wild, exotic animals for demeaning entertainment acts. The document makes the case that animal-free circuses are on the rise. For example, Cirque du Soleil has entertained over 100 million people in 300 cities

on 5 continents around the world since 1984 (Cirque du Soleil), grossing \$800+ million in annual revenue.⁶ (Sidhu)

Even in existing circuses that use wild and exotic animal performers, the animals comprise only a very small fraction of the overall 2-hour show. For example, elephants perform a mere 10 minutes in the Royal Hanneford Circus show at the Westchester County Center. When the Cole Bros. Circus traveled to St. Louis, MO in 2005 on its animal-free tour, it reported that the circus had its “best year...in a long time” and “can put on as good or better show than without the exotics.” [Daily Record]

Today, animal circuses are down to only a handful of operations. As more people are learning about the cruel realities of animal circus performers – especially wild, exotic animals – the public is growing uncomfortable with supporting such circuses, by opting to find alternative forms of entertainment. Nearly 30 wild and exotic animal-free circuses perform throughout the United States. A list of circuses without wild, exotic animals can be found in Appendix E.

As reported in 2007 by The Independent, there is also growing tension between the traditional circuses, mostly run by old circus families, and "new" circuses, operated by graduates from "circus schools." **The new circuses, most without animals, appear to be thriving.**

c. Zoos Phasing Out Elephant Exhibits

The job of elephant keeper has consistently been rated by the US Bureau of Labor statistics as the most dangerous profession in North America. Keeper fatality and relative risk ratios are much higher than those of a typical worker, even three times higher than a coal miner. Between the 1970s and 1990s, elephant trainer and handler fatalities averaged about one a year. From 1990 to 1995 alone, 18 people were killed by elephants, including trainers with more than a dozen years of experience. Working hands-on with elephants is a serious threat to one's safety as more zoo personnel are killed by elephants than all other species of animals kept in zoos and circuses combined.

As reported in the New York Times (Feb. 7, 2006), the Bronx Zoo has announced that it will close the elephant exhibit once two – or even one – of its three elephants die. “The reasons behind the shift are complex and involve both the distinctive personality traits of pachyderms and America's changing standards when it comes to confining animals.” A spokesperson for the Wildlife Conservation Society (which operates the Bronx Zoo) says the Society would prefer to redirect its resources to preserving elephants in the wild in Asia and Africa.

⁶ A March 2007 article at Bloomberg.com reports \$800 million in annual revenue and suggests a value of \$3 billion for the whole company. http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=ae_52Qb560Qk (accessed 6 Sept. 2010).

A current list of the 22 zoos that have closed or expressed intent to close elephant exhibits are listed in Appendix F.

d. Primate Specific Bans

Currently, 19 states ban private possession of nonhuman primates, and a further 7 states carry either a partial ban or require specific permits to own nonhuman primates.

A current list of all states carrying bans and permit requirements for nonhuman primates are listed in the Appendix.

e. International Legislation to Restrict Use of Wild Animals in Entertainment

Numerous countries, including Austria, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, India, Israel, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, and Sweden have enacted laws that partially or fully prohibit the exhibition of wild animals in circuses. Significant local bans have been implemented across Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ireland, Spain, and the UK. Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Greece have gone so far as to prohibit the use of all animals in circuses.

In early 2011, China instituted a total ban on animal circuses and warned zoos that they must raise the level of animal care or face foreclosure. The new regulations affect all 300 state-owned zoos in the China Zoo Association. (Telegraph)

As for China's new requirements for their zoos:

“Firstly, the zoos will be forced to stop pulling the teeth of tiger cubs so that zoo visitors can hold them. Zoos will also have to put a halt to the selling of animal parts in their shops, and the zoo restaurants will have to refrain from serving dishes made using rare animals. On top of this, zoos will need to end the attractions in which live animals are sold to visitors and then thrown to the wild cats, allowing the visitors to watch the cats rip the defenseless animals to shreds. Finally, the zoos will also need to provide the animals with adequate housing, away from disturbance and irritation, reports Newser.com. Unfortunately, these are not even the most shocking events that take place at these shows. Xiao Bing, the chairman of the local animal protection association in Xiamen, told The Telegraph: "I also saw one entertainment park where the monkeys seemed to have wounds all over their bodies. The manager told me the monkeys got hurt during live monkey-fighting shows."

(Huffington Post)

In the UK over 200 local authorities have looked at the evidence and consulted their constituents, ultimately banning animal circuses from their jurisdiction. A survey of 318 local authorities found that: 39% had banned all animal acts; 17% had banned just wild

animal acts; 21.5% said they never received requests from circuses with animals; and a minority of 22.5% continued to allow animal circuses. (Animal Defenders International, 2006)

In 2007, a study commissioned by the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs was concluded. The study group was comprised of representatives of the circus industry, animal welfare organizations, academics and veterinarians. As part of the UK government-led consultation, 10,576 people responded to questions about animals in circuses (an initial summary of responses compiled by DEFRA is available at: <http://archive.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/farmanimal/welfare/act/secondary-legis/circus.htm>). Key figures from the survey are as follows:

- 94.5% believed a ban on the use of wild animals in traveling circuses was the best option to achieve consistently better welfare standards for these animals.
- 95.5% believed that there are no species of wild animal that are acceptable to use in traveling circuses.
- 96% believed traveling circuses should be prevented from obtaining any further wild animals.
- Only 7% strongly opposed the calls for bans.

According to the Captive Animal Protective Society, “[UK] Opinion polls always show a majority oppose animal circuses and political support for prohibition is strong too.”

In a March 2010 public statement, DEFRA Animal Welfare Minister, Jim Fitzpatrick, said: “I agree with the clear view emerging from the huge response to the Government's consultation that keeping wild animals to perform in travelling circuses is no longer acceptable...I am minded to pursue a ban on the use of these animals in circuses.”⁷ Fitzpatrick also acknowledged that the use of non-domesticated animals in circuses has sharply declined. ([Telegraph](#) and [BBC](#))

A United Kingdom ban on using performing animals for entertainment was supported by the British Veterinary Association (BVA) and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA). Professor Bill Reilly, BVA president, said: “Although it only affects a small number of animals at present, the BVA felt that their needs, and the needs of future animals, could not be adequately met by the environmental conditions of a travelling circus.” RSPCA wildlife scientist Dr Ros Clubb added: “Watching animals perform unnatural tricks also does nothing to educate the public or promote compassion for animals.” ([BBC](#))

- The delay on legislation in the UK actually came from DEFRA. They pointed to possible EU-level blocks to the legislation due to a pending Austrian case in the

⁷ A change in government at the May 2010 General Election means that any decision on the future of wild animal circus acts will likely be on hold.

European Court of Justice, but it turns out that the EU Ombudsman threw the case out long before the DEFRA decision. As Harvey Locke, President of the British Veterinary Association stated it: “the Government had acted “without first checking the full facts.” He added: “I cannot stress too strongly that the welfare needs of non-domesticated, wild animals cannot be met within the environment of a travelling circus, especially in terms of accommodation and the ability to express normal behaviour.” ([Independent](#))

- In early 2011, Animal Defenders International caught on tape an elephant handler employed by the UK’s Bobby Roberts Super Circus savagely beating an elephant with a pitchfork. There was such an outcry after the footage emerged that the elephant has since been removed from the circus and housed elsewhere. ([BBC](#))
- This incident helped fuel the debate in the UK parliament, and on June 24, 2011, Government MPs voted to ban circus animals, despite pressure from the Prime Minister David Cameron (an avid hunter) and party leaders. ([Independent](#) and [BBC](#))

Treaty Language:

In addition to domestic legislation, there is relevant treaty language pertaining to animals in entertainment found in international regulations. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) regulates the trade of endangered species among signatory nations. Any animal or plant listed in Appendix I is granted the highest level of protection. Appendix I animals require both an export and import permit from both nations before any movement of the protected species may take place, and in the protected animals may not be involved in any form of commercial trade. (CITES Art. II).

CITES includes specific exemptions for the movement of “specimens which form part of a travelling zoo, circus, menagerie, plant exhibition or other travelling exhibition” provided that “the Management Authority is satisfied that any living specimen will be so transported and cared for as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment.” (Article VII (7) (a)).

It may be possible in the future to make the case on a national stage that animals are treated cruelly in circuses. If so, then the Management Authority may not issue a permit on Appendix I animals (i.e. African Elephants). While this may not help the animals currently in circuses, it could prevent the future purchase of animals that fall under the protection of CITES.

f. United States Legislation to Restrict Use of Wild Animals in Entertainment

Several U.S. cities have an outright ban on animal acts and dozens of cities have ordinances restricting or prohibiting specific acts. Already in New York State, the towns of South Hampton, Wallkill, and Greenburgh have banned the display of exotic animals, public contact with some exotic animals, and any use of exotic animals in performances, respectively. An up-to-date list of such legislation can be found on Born Free USA’s

website at: http://www.bornfreeusa.org/b4a3_circuses_and_shows.php.

A March 2009 New York Times “City Room” article and query about banning elephants from New York City provides a pulse on how the public in this region views the issue. A large majority of the 206 comments following the article support the proposed City Council ban, Intro 389 “Prohibiting the display of wild or exotic animals for public entertainment or amusement,” sponsored by Rosie Mendez (D-District 2). For full article and comments, see <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/03/26/should-circus-elephants-be-banned/?hp>. (Lee)

In a 2007 letter introducing and outlining the justification for Intro 389 from the Hon. Rosie Mendez to her NYC Council peer members, Mendez states:

There are currently no local laws in the City of New York regulating the use of wild or exotic animals for entertainment, and state and federal law insufficiently regulate the industry. As the attached testimony reveals, the animals used in circuses, rodeos, and other forms of public entertainment are grossly mistreated and abused. Elephants, lions, tigers, and other large animals are whipped with bullhooks, which causes great pain and stress. This at times leads to frightened animals rebelling, resulting in physical injury, major property damage, and even death. Since 1990, there have been more than 123 documented attacks on humans by captive large cats in the United States, 13 of which resulted in fatal injuries.

As of July 2012, Intro 389, now known as Int. 0049-2010, has not received a hearing but continues to be a legislative priority for Mendez. Full text of Mendez’s letter is attached in Appendix G.

A growing number of states are considering legislation that would either prohibit the display of certain exotic, wild animal species or set state-specific standards for how these animals are trained and treated while performing. (Fearing, p. 7) States from Connecticut and California, to Massachusetts and Nebraska have held hearings to evaluate whether wild, exotic animals are appropriate for traveling entertainment events. [Id. at 8] According to Animal Defenders International, there are currently, thirty-five municipalities across eighteen different states that have enacted partial or full bans on circus animals. See their list at: http://www.ad-international.org/animals_in_entertainment/go.php?id=281&ssi=10

In Ohio, following two incidents of exotic animal attack (one in which a captive black bear mauled his owner to death and another in which a pet grivet monkey escaped captivity and attacked two little girls), then Governor Ted Strickland passed a bill banning private ownership of dangerous exotic animals. (L.A. Times, Humane Society, Glass City Jungle). In response to the tragic slaughter of dozens of wild animals, released by their suicidal owner in October 2011, Ohio Governor John Kasich signed into law additional restrictions on the ownership of exotic animals.

In early 2011, West Virginia House Delegate Barbra Hatfield proposed a bill in the state legislature to prohibit abusive behavior towards elephants by their owners. This bill would mostly affect traveling circuses and would carry a one year jail sentence and a \$20,000 fine. The bill is still pending. (West Virginia Legislative Agenda)

Attempts to limit the use of exotic animals are not alien to the U.S. Congress, either.

Introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999 and co-sponsored by 52 representatives, the Captive Elephants Accident Prevention Act of 1999 (H.R. 2929) would prohibit the use of elephants in circuses, traveling shows and rides. In his introductory remarks, bill sponsor Hon. Sam Farr states:

“To get a 5 ton, 10-foot tall animal to perform these stressful, often painful stunts 2 or 3 shows per day, animal trainers use fear and torture. In his arsenal, the elephant trainer has devices such as high-powered electric prods, ankuses, bull hooks (long sharpened metal hook at the end of a handle), and Martingales (heavy chains binding an elephant's tusks to his front feet). To get these giant, willful, wild animals to behave like trained dogs, elephants are brutalized. It is therefore understandable that when they get the chance, they kill people.”

In November 2011, the “Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act” (H.R. 3359) was introduced by Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA) with the intention of amending the Animal Welfare Act to “restrict the use of exotic and nondomesticated animals in traveling circuses and exhibitions.” The bill highlighted the systemic animal cruelty involved in traveling shows, as well as the risk to public safety. It has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

IV. PROPOSED ACTION

a. Proposed Legislation

Pace University’s Academy for Applied Environmental Studies and The Committee to Ban Wild and Exotic Acts formally recommend that legislation be issued based on our proposed language herein. Specifically, we recommend that “dangerous” animals for entertainment purposes be banned from New York State.

It is therefore proposed that legislation approach this ban in one of the following ways:

i. Legislation expressly banning the use of “dangerous” exotic animals in traveling circuses and exhibitions.

Bans on traveling acts, such as that proposed by Hon. Moran in HR 3359, could help prevent the suffering associated with packing and moving the animals, confining

them and putting them through the additional stress of constant changes in their environment. See a copy of the bill in Appendix I.

ii. Legislation expressly banning “dangerous” animals, as identified in the USDA list, from entertainment acts in New York.

The majority of legislation enacted to date has restricted and/or banned wild, exotic animals.

ii. Legislation expressly banning the use of cruel and inhumane animal training devices, such as bull hooks, ankuses, electric prods, and whips used in entertainment acts in New York.

This language was used for an ordinance in Southampton, NY. It can be effective because the training of wild animals necessitates the use of cruel and inhumane devices. If circuses are no longer able to bring these tools in New York, the trainers are significantly disadvantaged and unable to ensure the animals will perform.

A similar ban on inhumane instruments pertaining to rodeos was enacted in Pittsburgh (1992). A copy of the law can be found in Appendix I.

See Appendix I for sample and model legislation regarding bans, restrictions, and prohibitions pertaining to wild animals and entertainment. Faculty and students at Pace Academy for Applied Environmental Studies and Pace Law School stand ready to contribute their expertise and time for further research and policy drafting to assist in this matter.

A few key points:

Ban Wild Animal Acts, Not the Circus

- It is not the goal of our proposed action to ban circuses. Rather, our goal is to continue to have the circus come to New York, but without the wild animal acts.

Animals within Scope: USDA’s “Dangerous” Animals

- The proposed law applies to “dangerous” animals as defined by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Section 2.131 of their Animal Care Resource Guide that applies to Handling and Public Display of Animals, which includes big cats, elephants, non-human primates, wolves and bears.
- An exemption is strongly encouraged for organizations with the mission of conservation education, organizations that support the propagation and reintroduction of exotic animals into the wild or designated sanctuaries, or that otherwise promote a harmonious relationship between humans and nature in a way that respects the natural dignity of the animals.

Ban versus Regulate

- Legislation banning “dangerous” animals from New York will be more effective to protect public safety and more fiscally responsible than regulation. For the State to undertake licensing, inspecting, and enforcing “wild and exotic” animal displays would not completely eliminate potential public harm and would be costly to the State. A ban is the only way to guarantee that the public will not come into contact with “dangerous” animals and it is virtually cost-free. A ban also has the advantage of being easily understood and administered.

Impact on Commercial Enterprises in New York

- The proposed ban will not impede a New York commercial or nonprofit entity from hosting a circus. Furthermore, our proposal also has no impact on New York shows that feature animals such as dogs, cats, birds, snakes and reptiles, etc.

b. Animal Circuses Get Replaced by Non-Animal Circuses

According to research conducted by Animal Defenders International, there is an apparent trend indicating that as animal circuses close, animal-free circuses replace them. For example, between 1996 and 2000, the number of UK animal circuses plunged from 22 to 11, while the number of animal-free circuses rose from 9 to 23. Thus, the circus industry can still thrive and even increase overall attendance, without the stigma of animal suffering. (Animal Defenders International, 2009)

c. Economic Analysis of Eliminating Wild Animals from the Circus

In January 2009, Jennifer Fearing, Chief Economist of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), authored a report analyzing what economic impact, if any, legislation restricting training methods utilized on elephants would have on a state or local jurisdiction. Fearing’s research and report concluded the following:

- Legislation prohibiting training devices utilized on traveling elephants does not prohibit any amusement event from taking place in a state.
- If certain events do not take place because parties affected by such legislation elect do not tour in the state, and continued demand exists for circus-type amusements events, the market will respond and other events will come to the state, replacing any lost economic activity.
- Alternatively, local economies within a state may see improved economic activity if family spending shifts away from touring events owned and operated by non-residents and toward resident events and activities.
- The state will experience no economic loss in the absence of amusements that may choose not to operate in a state if this type of legislation is enacted.

- To the extent there is no adverse impact on local or state economies, such legislation cannot adversely impact the national economy.

Founded and based in New York City, the not-for-profit Big Apple Circus has been performing shows for 35+ years. Since 2000, they no longer use exotic, wild animals and limit animal performers to horses and dogs. According to a company spokesperson (in a conversation with Bob Mackay of HSUS), “the circus has continued to be successful witnessing no observable decline in attendance.” (Id. at 8-9)

Also based in New York is the Bindlestiff Family Cirkus, a non-profit performing arts organization dedicated to increasing the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the history of circus, sideshow, vaudeville, and related arts. Their traveling acts have been successful in highlighting the crafts and skills of human performance art. A list of other animal-free circuses that travel the US and the world can be found here: <http://www.aspca.org/fight-animal-cruelty/circus-cruelty/animal-free-circuses.aspx>

The Canada-based and animal-free Cirque du Soleil has repeatedly featured shows in NY. Their focus on story-telling, music, acting, art, costume, and acrobatics have gained them numerous awards and world fame, all without the use of exotic animals.

Even circuses that relied on wild, exotic animal acts (lion tamers, etc.) are shifting to reducing animal acts or eliminating them altogether. Jennifer Fearing posits that these shows are likely recognizing the potentially higher profitability of showcasing human acts rather than animal acts. (Id. at 9)

In a 2005 Wall Street Journal article “The Power Clown,” Mitchel Kalmanson (circus insurer) is reported as saying that “for most circuses, roughly 20% of overall budget goes to insurance – and rates for exotic animals have more than doubled in the past five years.” (Id. at 11)

As suggested in the HSUS report, most families have a set annual entertainment budget. Thus, the money they might spend going to the circus every year is money not spent on other similar activities (visits to Rye Playland, the Cambridge Valley Hot Air Balloon Festival, the I Love NY Horse Show, East Durham’s Zoom Flume Water Park, etc). Therefore, whether or not a family goes to the circus on a given year, the money will still be spent elsewhere within the local economy. (Id. at 4)

Owners and performers of traveling circuses putting on a show in a particular state by and large reside elsewhere in another locale (with the obvious exception that when they happen to be booked in a “home town”). Therefore, when the circus leaves town, after being there three days or so, it takes its performers and any financial contributions to local economy out of the area. Thus, from a local economy perspective, family spending would make a more significant contribution if spent on local, permanent attractions instead of traveling shows. In the latter scenario, owners and employees of local entertainment entities typically live in the same vicinity and therefore benefit directly from patronage and in turn spend their incomes locally. (Id. at 6)

V. CONCLUSION

Pace Academy for Applied Environmental Studies and the Committee to Ban Wild, Exotic Animal Acts respectfully submit this report and recommendation to pass legislation to ban the use of “dangerous” wild animals from entertainment in New York.

The use of long-ranging wild animals in circuses as a form of entertainment is detrimental to the safety of the public, especially children and animal trainers because of the very nature of traveling circuses. Close confinement deprives the animals of physical and psychological needs, including exercise, social bonding, and the ability to express their natural behaviors. Common training methods in the circus industry employ techniques, devices, or agents that are abusive, cruel, and/or stressful. The combination of physical and psychological stress endured by wild animal performers makes them especially unpredictable, uncontrollable, and impulsive, posing a significant danger to audience members and the public at large.

Given the limited “stage time” of wild animals in a given circus performance and the lack of educational content, there is no justification for including them in the circuses. Non-animal circuses are thriving and provide thrilling entertainment for families with talented and artistic human performers. The State needs only to eliminate the wild animals to thereby eliminate the public danger, cruelty, and unethical underpinnings of circus animal performers.

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Eliminating Long-range and “Dangerous” Wild Animals from Entertainment Demonstrations in New York State

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APPENDIX A

CIRCUS CITATIONS AND INCIDENTS

Incidents Involving Hanneford Family Circus

USDA License #58-C-0666, 4550 Verna Bethany Rd., Myakka City, FL 34251

Hanneford Family Circus has failed to meet minimal federal standards for the care of animals used in exhibition as established in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cited Hanneford Family Circus numerous times for failure to provide a veterinary-care program and veterinary-care records as well as failure to provide proper food and secure enclosures. A Hanneford Family Circus elephant caused the death of a handler. For 16 years, animals with Hanneford Family Circus were forced to perform up to three times per day, seven days per week, year-round at the Fort Lauderdale Swap Shop in Florida. Contact PETA for documentation.

February 12, 2011: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to establish and maintain an adequate program of veterinary care. Asian elephant Liz, who is 36 years old, appeared to be thin and underweight. She also had an angular limb deformity of her front left leg and a congenital deformity of her right hind leg. Both conditions affected her gait, so she needed more frequent veterinary evaluations as she aged. Hanneford was also cited for failure to provide an adequate barrier between the public and an elephant giving rides—children were able to get

inside the rope barrier. The circus was also cited for not properly maintaining the trailer used to transport the elephants. In numerous areas, the metal lining had sharp, jagged edges, which could injure an elephant.

December 16, 2010: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to provide the agency with an updated itinerary. As a result, the circus was also cited for failure to provide access to the property for an inspection.

January 7, 2008: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to provide adequate perimeter fencing around the facility that housed the elephants.

August 21, 2007: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to provide veterinary records documenting a birth deformity in an elephant named Liz, who was observed stiffly moving her right knee.

January 9, 2007: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to have its program of veterinary care reviewed, updated, and approved by the circus's new veterinarian.

September 13, 2005: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to be present so that an animal welfare inspection could be conducted, failure to submit a travel itinerary, and failure to notify the USDA that the circus had permanently relocated.

July 30, 2003: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to maintain facilities in good repair. The circus was directed to repair or replace a resting shelf for the tiger in order to protect the animal from a possible injury.

Incidents Involving **Hanneford Family Circus**

August 21, 2002: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to allow access to an inspector to conduct an animal welfare inspection.

September 27, 2001: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to provide adequate drainage around the tiger enclosure. The inspector wrote, “[T]he water has a foul odor and is not being rapidly drained.” The inspector also noted that the tiger named Jumanji “appear[ed] thin.”

November 23, 1999: The circus failed to renew its USDA exhibitor license and had to reapply for a new license.

December 1, 1998: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to feed a balanced diet to its tiger. The inspector wrote, “The diet for the young tiger is significantly out of the accepted calcium/phosphorus ratio.” The circus was also cited for storing toxic substances near the animals’ hay, failure to have a veterinary-care program, and incomplete acquisition records. The inspector recommended that all personnel in contact with the elephants be tested for tuberculosis yearly.

February 6, 1998: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for inadequate recordkeeping.

January 13, 1998: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to provide adequate veterinary care. There were no current records of vaccinations, deworming, foot care, or treatment for an elephant named Liz with an elbow problem.

July 1, 1997: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to correct a previously identified noncompliance of not having a program of veterinary care. The circus was also cited for a tiger cage in disrepair, inadequate recordkeeping, and failure to provide health certificates for animals moved from Florida to Iowa.

December 11, 1996: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to correct a previously identified noncompliance of not having a program of veterinary care.

September 30, 1996: The USDA found that Hanneford’s perimeter fence was not secure and strong enough to prevent animals from escaping, endangering both the animals and the general public. The circus was also cited for not having records of veterinary care and insufficient recordkeeping.

June 13, 1996: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to have a veterinary-care program.

February 28, 1995: Hanneford Family Circus was cited for improper food storage and waste disposal.

Incidents Involving **Hanneford Family Circus**

April 29, 1993: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for failure to maintain veterinary-care records. There were no current records of deworming, vaccinations, or visits from a veterinarian. The circus was also cited for incomplete disposition records and improper feeding.

December 1, 1992: The USDA cited Hanneford Family Circus for insufficient watering, improper waste disposal, poor housekeeping, and inadequate pest control.

September 13, 1991: The USDA issued an official warning to Hanneford Family Circus for repeated failure to provide access to records and property, failure to provide required itinerary, and failure to maintain adequate records.

June 20, 1990: An elephant named Carol knocked down a handler, knelt down on his chest, and stepped on his head and leg. The handler died as a result of the trauma and the crushing injuries. The incident occurred as the elephants were being prepared for a performance at the Thunderbird Swap Shop.



PETA Factsheet

Royal Hanneford Circus

USDA # (None; formerly 58-C-0035), 2250 Gulf Gate Dr., Sarasota, FL 34231

Royal Hanneford Circus has failed to meet minimal federal standards for the care of animals used in exhibition as established in the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cited Royal Hanneford numerous times for failure to provide veterinary care and meet minimum space requirements. An elephant with Royal Hanneford rampaged during a performance, causing spectators to run for safety. Royal Hanneford's elephants have been treated for a human strain of tuberculosis. As of October 2005, Royal Hanneford Circus no longer has its own USDA license and leases animal acts from other circuses, including Carson & Barnes Circus*. Contact PETA for documentation.

April 12-13, 2008: The Royal Hanneford Circus appearance in East Lansing, Michigan, featured elephants from Carson & Barnes Circus and its trainer Tim Frisco who, in his capacity as animal care director, was videotaped viciously attacking terrified elephants with sharp metal bullhooks and electric prods. Frisco instructed other trainers to hurt the elephants until they screamed and sink the bullhook into their flesh and twist it, and he cautioned that the beatings must be concealed from the public.

March 1, 2005: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to correct a previously identified noncompliance requiring a written protocol for elephant foot care and arthritis management. Royal Hanneford was also cited for failure to provide both Asian elephants with adequate foot care. The inspector wrote, "Most of Tina and Ina's nails are overgrown and there is excessive tissue over their cuticles. One of Tina's nails has a crack from the outside of her nail to the cuticle." Royal Hanneford was also cited for failure to provide a record of tuberculosis tests.

May 21, 2004: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to correct a previously identified noncompliance requiring a written protocol for elephant foot care and arthritis management and for failure to provide an adequate written program of veterinary care.

June 24, 2002: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide all three of its elephants with adequate veterinary and foot care.

December 18, 2001: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide adequate veterinary care to three elephants.

October 9, 2001: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to have a complete program of veterinary care.

July 9, 2001: A USDA inspector noted that Royal Hanneford Circus had no documentation to show that the elephant handler or the three elephants had had tuberculosis testing since May 2001.

April 19, 2001: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide adequate veterinary care to all three of its elephants. Two elephants were suffering from nail infections, a potentially life-threatening illness in captive elephants.

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February 16, 2001: Royal Hanneford exhibitor Mitchel Kalmanson was cited by the USDA for failure to provide environment enhancement to primates. The inspector wrote, “[H]ousing does not fully meet the needs for considerable and complex social interactions of chimpanzees.” The trainer stated that he keeps the chimpanzees in solitary confinement for the majority of the time so that they will be more motivated to perform. The inspector noted that the chimpanzees had sparse haircoats with bare patches and that the two adult chimpanzees did not have canine teeth. Kalmanson was also cited for poor lighting in the trailer where the chimpanzees were stored in cages.

December 20, 2000: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide adequate veterinary care. The inspector wrote, “All three elephants are in need of foot care. The cuticles and pads of the elephants are overgrown and must be trimmed.”

April 13, 2000: The USDA confirmed that a Royal Hanneford elephant named Tina had tested positive for tuberculosis and that its other two elephants, Ina and Chandra, had been exposed. The three elephants were returned to Royal Hanneford’s winter quarters for several months of tuberculosis treatment. A USDA inspector noted that “Tina is lean, with some slight loss of body condition,” and suffers from ventral edema and a chronically infected nail. Chandra has chronic intermittent arthritis. The inspector noted that for a third time in the last four months, three people with exposure to the elephants failed to have tuberculosis tests. The inspector also wrote, “Other issues discussed with the licensee: adequate protection from sun and heat this summer, obtaining good-quality hay during the summer, reducing stress, providing as much free access to the outdoors and free unchained movement as possible, mental enrichment, skin care, and bathing.”

March 18, 2000: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to have five elephant handlers tested for tuberculosis.

December 27, 1999: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide a veterinarian’s diagnosis and prescribed treatment for an elephant with infected nails and an elephant with an arthritic hip. Royal Hanneford was also cited for failure to have five elephant handlers tested for tuberculosis.

February 21, 1999: An elephant with Royal Hanneford rampaged during a performance in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. According to eyewitnesses, the elephant left the ring and ran into the bleachers. In a panic, spectators tripped and fell trying to get away from the elephant.

February 11, 1999: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide adequate veterinary care to elephants who were in need of foot care. Royal Hanneford was cited for failure to provide adequate space for the elephants. The inspector noted that the chains used on the elephants were too short, which prevented them from lying down, grooming themselves, and moving their feet. Royal Hanneford was cited for feeding elephants poor-quality hay.

October 14, 1998: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for insufficient veterinary care. The inspector noted, “The elephant Tina’s front feet are in need of foot care.”

September 14, 1998: A zebra with Royal Hanneford escaped and was found by police wandering along a busy roadway in Charlotte, N.C.

June 4, 1998: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for insufficient veterinary care. The inspector noted, “Chandra, the largest female elephant, is in need of foot care.”

October 7, 1997: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for using inappropriate flooring in the dog and cat enclosures. The circus was cited a second time for not providing sufficient space for the dogs. The inspector noted that “a large dog is housed in an enclosure that is 29”x25”x22” high; the dog is 23” long and 20” tall at the top of its head. The enclosure does not meet required floor space.” The circus was also cited for failure to have an exercise plan, identification, and records for the dogs.

July 11, 1997: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failing to provide sufficient space for the dogs. The inspector noted that the dogs had less than 6 inches of headroom.

March 22, 1996: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for not having records of medical treatment for the elephants’ feet.

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December 6, 1995: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for drainage problems in the elephant barn. The inspector noted, "Urine was pooled at the back corner of elephant barn. The elephants' pads and cuticles were overgrown." This could cause serious problems with elephants. Elephants' feet are prone to foot rot, which eventually can cripple the animal. The inspector also cited Royal Hanneford for failure to keep records of veterinary care.

January 13, 1994: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for insufficient caging for a leopard, a member of an endangered species. The cage did not provide the simple comfort of a board on which the big cat could rest.

June 23, 1993: The USDA cited Royal Hanneford for failure to provide a program of veterinary care.

January 5, 1993: During an attempted inspection, a USDA official noted that there was a "failure to make premises, animals, and records available for inspection."

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PETA Factsheet

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus

USDA# 52-C-0137 (past # 58-C-0106), 8607 Westwood Center Dr., Vienna, VA 22182

In 2009, PETA recorded Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus employees for many months and in numerous U.S. states. Eight employees, including the head elephant trainer and the animal superintendent, were videotaped backstage repeatedly hitting elephants in the head, trunk, ears, and other sensitive body parts with bullhooks and other cruel training devices just before the animals would enter the arena for performances. (A bullhook is an elephant-training tool that resembles a fireplace poker.) A tiger trainer was videotaped beating tigers during dress rehearsals. Footage from the investigation can be viewed at RinglingBeatsAnimals.com.

Former Ringling employees have reported that elephants are routinely abused and violently beaten with bullhooks. In December 2009, PETA released dozens of photographs taken by a retired Ringling trainer named Sam Haddock. The photos reveal the violent training methods used on baby elephants at Ringling's Polk City, Florida, training center. The photos, which are available at RinglingBeatsAnimals.com, depict baby elephants bound with ropes and wrestled into physically difficult and uncomfortable positions by several adult men. According to Haddock's notarized statement, the elephants scream, cry, and struggle as they are stretched out, slammed to the ground, gouged with bullhooks, and shocked with electric prods. According to him, these violent training methods are the only way an elephant can be trained to perform in circuses. Elephants are also chained in filthy, poorly ventilated boxcars for an average of more than 26 straight hours—and as long as 60 to 100 hours at a time—when the circus travels (see "[Animal Care](#)").

Ringling has failed to meet minimal federal standards for the care of animals used in exhibition as established by the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). Since 2000, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cited Ringling numerous times for serious AWA noncompliances, including the following: improper handling of dangerous animals; failure to provide adequate veterinary care to animals including an elephant with a stiff leg, an elephant with a large swelling on her leg, elephants with abrasions, a camel with bloody wounds, and a camel injured on train tracks; causing trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm, and unnecessary discomfort to two elephants who sustained injuries when they ran amok during a performance; endangering tigers who were nearly baked alive in a boxcar because of poor maintenance of their enclosures; failure to test elephants for tuberculosis; and unsanitary feeding practices (see "[Failure to Comply With Humane-Treatment Laws](#)"). The USDA has at least three open investigations of potential violations of the AWA by Ringling.

In 2004, a 2-year-old lion died from apparent heatstroke while the circus train crossed the Mojave Desert, and an 8-month-old baby elephant was euthanized when he fractured his hind legs after falling from a circus pedestal. In the late 1990s, Ringling paid \$20,000 to settle USDA charges that the circus had failed to provide veterinary care to a dying baby elephant. The circus also received warnings from the agency for inflicting painful rope lesions on two baby elephants as they were prematurely pulled from their mothers as well as for shooting a caged tiger to death.

Ringling's gold unit is leasing an elephant act from Carson & Barnes Circus. In a PETA undercover investigation, that circus's animal care director, Tim Frisco, was videotaped beating and shocking elephants and instructing others to hurt elephants with bullhooks until they scream in pain. Tim Frisco is the brother of Joe Frisco Jr., a Ringling elephant superintendent.

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At least 29 elephants, including four babies, have died since 1992 (see “**Deaths**”). A human strain of tuberculosis has been diagnosed in 12 percent of captive Asian elephants in the U.S., including many at Ringling (see “**Elephant Tuberculosis**”). Fifty-seven of the approximately 62 elephants owned by Ringling in 1990 were captured in the wild.

Ringling employees have been arrested for sexual and violent crimes, including possessing child pornography, sexual battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and aggravated bank robbery (see “**Criminal Activity**”). This factsheet also contains sections on “**Danger**,” “**Impeding Investigations**,” and “**Declining Popularity**.” Contact PETA for documentation.

DEATHS

July 7, 2011: Putzi, a 49-year-old female Asian elephant who had been captured in the wild and shipped to the circus as an infant in 1964, was euthanized.

June 20, 2011: Siam, a 60-year-old female Asian elephant who had been captured in the wild and shipped to the circus as an infant in 1954, was euthanized.

April 26, 2011: Ringling euthanized Lutzi, a 61-year-old female Asian elephant who had spent 56 years of her life with the circus. In a sworn deposition taken during Ringling’s 2009 trial to answer charges that its elephant-handling practices violated the federal Endangered Species Act, the general manager of Ringling’s Center for Elephant Conservation admitted that Lutzi and other elephants had been chained by two legs on a concrete floor for 16 hours a day.

March 19, 2010: Lima, a zebra who fled the circus and ran loose through downtown Atlanta for more than 40 minutes, was euthanized as a result of injuries he sustained during his escape.

January 8, 2010: Ringling euthanized Josky, a 43-year-old female Asian elephant who was captured in the wild in 1967.

July 18, 2008: Calcutta, a 62-year-old Asian elephant who was captured in the wild in India and shipped to U.S. circuses as an infant, was euthanized by the circus.

September 11, 2006: An Asian elephant died from unreported causes. The circus did not announce this death.

August 31, 2005: An Asian elephant named Gildah died. Gildah was captured in the wild and used in Siegfried & Roy’s casino act. She was kept in solitary confinement at the Mirage Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Feld Entertainment refused a USDA recommendation to conduct a necropsy on Gildah.

August 10, 2005: According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, an 11-day-old elephant named Bertha died. The circus did not announce her birth or death.

October 9, 2004: A 44-year-old Asian elephant named Roma was euthanized because of osteoarthritis.* The circus did not announce this death. A necropsy revealed that Roma had tuberculosis.

August 5, 2004: An 8-month-old elephant named Riccardo was euthanized after suffering severe and irreparable fractures to both hind legs when he fell off a circus pedestal. Riccardo was undersized when he was born to Shirley, a Ringling elephant, in December 2003. Failing to wait until Shirley was 18 years old, when she would have been physically and emotionally ready to raise offspring, Ringling used Shirley for breeding when she was only 7 years old (see “Animal Care,” December 5, 2003). Riccardo may have been afflicted with a bone disorder caused by malnourishment because his mother was unable to nurse him.

July 13, 2004: According to an affidavit by former Ringling lion handler Frank Hagan, a 2-year-old lion named Clyde died while traveling through the intense heat of the Mojave Desert in a poorly ventilated boxcar without being checked or given water. The lion is believed to have died from heatstroke and dehydration.

July 1, 2004: A 53-year-old Asian elephant named Calcutta 2 died because of an aortic aneurysm. The circus did not announce this death. Calcutta 2 had previously tested positive for tuberculosis (see “Elephant Tuberculosis,” April 16, 2001).

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May 11, 2004: Two Ringling horses were struck by a freight train as they were being unloaded from the circus train near Dayton, Ohio. One horse died instantly, and the other was euthanized at the scene.

January 24, 2003: An Asian elephant was euthanized because of osteoarthritis.* The circus did not announce this death.

December 22, 2002: A 57-year-old Asian elephant named King Tusk was euthanized because of osteoarthritis.*

June 1, 2001: A 7-year-old Bengal tiger named Jasmine was euthanized due to chronic renal disease. The circus did not announce this death.

May 25, 2001: A 34-year-old Asian elephant named Birka was euthanized due to abdominal neoplasia at Ringling's breeding compound. The circus did not announce this death.

April 30, 2001: An Asian elephant died due to chronic osteoarthritis.* The circus did not announce this death.

April 12, 2001: An Asian elephant was euthanized due to chronic osteoarthritis.* The circus did not announce this death.

March 7, 2001: An Bengal tiger was euthanized because of tumors in her ear canals and sinuses. The circus did not announce this death.

August 5, 2000: An Asian elephant was euthanized due to degenerative osteoarthritis.* The circus did not announce this death.

August 1, 2000: An Bengal tiger was euthanized due to degenerative osteoarthritis.* The circus did not announce this death.

October 28, 1999: A 52-year-old Asian elephant named Teetchie was euthanized due to multiple joints affected by osteoarthritis* and an *M. tuberculosis* infection of the lung. The circus did not announce this death.

July 26, 1999: Benjamin, a 4-year-old baby elephant who had been removed from his mother before she could teach him to swim, drowned when he stepped into a pond while the circus was traveling through Texas. Benjamin drowned as he tried to move away from a trainer who was poking him with a bullhook. According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, Benjamin was removed from his mother when he was only 1 year old.

February 22, 1999: A horse collapsed and died during Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey's animal march to the Scope Convention Center in Norfolk, Virginia. A PETA videographer captured the horse's collapse on film despite Ringling workers' attempts to obstruct the camera. Although Ringling claims that a veterinarian is available to its animals 24 hours a day, there was no veterinarian on duty when the horse was in urgent need of medical care. According to the necropsy, Ringling was aware of this animal's delicate condition yet kept him on the road anyway.

September 3, 1998: According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, a 40-year-old elephant named Dolly died. Ringling did not announce this death.

August 31, 1998: A 12-year-old wild-caught sea lion named Gypsy was found dead in her transport container in Moline, Illinois. In the wild, sea lions can live to be 20 years old.

January 24, 1998: A 3-year-old baby elephant named Kenny was forced to perform in two shows while the circus was in Jacksonville, Florida, despite obvious signs of illness. According to the circus's animal care log, Kenny was "not eating or drinking," was "bleeding from his rectum ... had a hard time standing, was very shaky, walked very slowly," and "passed a large amount of blood from his rectum." The log noted that at 11:30 p.m., "the elephant was dead."

January 7, 1998: Ringling trainer Graham Chipperfield shot a Bengal tiger named Arnie five times while he was locked in his cage, killing him in retaliation for an attack against Graham's brother, Richard, during a photo shoot.

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May 22, 1996: An elephant named Seetna who was euthanized due to prolonged dystocia (difficult labor). According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, Seetna was 30 years old when she died. In elephants, dystocia often indicates that the fetus has died and is decomposing in the uterus. The circus did not announce this death.

1995: According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, the following Ringling elephants died: 53-year-old Cita, 53-year-old Ranni, 45-year-old Rhani, and 34-year-old Karnaudi. The circus did not announce these deaths.

August 8, 1994: According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, a 41-year-old elephant named Jenny died. Ringling did not announce this death.

1992: According to the *Asian Elephant Studbook*, the following Ringling elephants died: a 26-year-old male named Petely, 50-year-old Nelly, and 50-year-old Mia.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH HUMANE-TREATMENT LAWS

August 25, 2011: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to handle animals in a manner that prevents physical harm after a tiger named Kimba had her tail caught in the gait of a transfer cage. Kimba suffered a laceration on her tail that was "about 1½ inches long and ½ wide." Ringling was also cited for forcing Banko, a 35-year-old Asian elephant, to perform even though she was "experiencing pain and distress" while suffering from diarrhea and abdominal comfort that required pain medication. Her condition was probably linked to sand colic, a potentially deadly medical condition.

June 10, 2011: The USDA gave Ringling a repeat citation for failure to provide adequate veterinary care to a female Asian elephant named Sarah, whom circus veterinarians reported as having possible necrotic tumors on her reproductive organs or a condition known as pyometra, a bacterial infection that causes the uterus to fill with pus and become septic. Sarah reportedly had an elevated white-blood-cell count indicative of infection, and Ringling also acknowledged that she had a chronic fistula (an abnormal connection) between her rectum and her vagina. The inspector wrote that there is a discrepancy between what was written in Sarah's medical records, what the circus's on-site veterinarian said, and the treatment that she was receiving from handlers. Additionally, Ringling was given a repeat citation for failure to maintain primary-transport enclosures in a manner that prevents injury to the animals.

November 18, 2010: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain an adequate program of veterinary care for a young elephant who had chronic lameness. The inspector wrote that "the licensee has not conducted adequate diagnostics, developed an adequate treatment plan, or ensured that the elephant received prescribed treatments." The USDA also cited Ringling for failure to maintain primary transport enclosures in a manner that prevents injury to the animals and for interfering with the inspection for over an hour, during which time it refused the USDA personnel access to the areas where the animals could be inspected.

November 4, 2010: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain an adequate program of veterinary care because it had kept expired drugs in stock and other pharmaceutical drugs had no expiration date listed.

August 17, 2010: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to store food in a manner that protects against deterioration or contamination after ripped fiberglass insulation panels installed in the hay barn at Ringling's Polk City, Florida, training center were found to be "hanging down in the direction of the hay underneath." The report continued, "The hay could become contaminated with fiberglass and compromise the well-being of the animals."

February 19, 2010: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to keep an elephant under the direct control of a handler. The incident occurred while the animal was being walked into an arena for a pre-show in Greenville, South Carolina. The USDA citation stated, "This noncompliance presents a safety risk to the animal, individual handlers, and the public" (see "Danger," February 7, 2010). Ringling was also cited for failure to provide an adequate outer perimeter fence for the hoofstock after a zebra "bolted away from a caretaker" on February 18, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia (see "Deaths," March 19, 2010, and "Danger," February 19, 2010).

July 28, 2009: The USDA issued a statement regarding PETA's allegations that Ringling employees abused elephants and tigers during an undercover investigation that lasted several months, stating that the "USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has initiated a thorough investigation into these allegations."

March 12, 2009: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain the primary enclosures for the elephants and big cats at its Williston, Florida, facility in a manner that would prevent injury to the animals. The USDA also cited Ringling for

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an unsanitary food storage area that was contaminated with rodent droppings as well as failure to properly maintain a perimeter fence behind a tiger's enclosure.

March 11, 2009: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to repair damaged perimeter fencing around elephant enclosures at its breeding compound. The inspector wrote that the perimeter fence "had evidence of small mammal tracks and paths and several areas where gaps were ... large enough for a person to crawl under the fence."

April 10, 2008: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to handle two zebras in a manner that would eliminate the potential for physical harm or stress after they escaped while the circus was performing in Baltimore, Maryland.

April 9 2008: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain the tigers' transport cages, failure to clean and repair the tigers' transport vehicle, improper storage of food and bedding, a filthy food preparation area, and unsanitary feeding practices.

February 20, 2008: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have adequate perimeter fencing (which is required for potentially dangerous animals) around two tigers.

January 11, 2008: The USDA cited Ringling for inadequate housing, which could have failed to safely contain six dogs and restrict other animals from access.

December 11, 2007: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain records of acquisition and disposition for its tigers.

September 19, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have a perimeter fence around dangerous animals that met the height requirement of 8 feet at its Williston facility. A similar citation was issued in 2003 at the same location.

July 11, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for improper handling of dangerous animals by failing to ensure that appropriate security was provided when the train containing the animals was stopped on the railroad tracks. The inspector wrote, "[T]hree APHIS personnel ... were able to approach and walk unchallenged directly to the open doors of the elephant cars" and stressed that "under these circumstances a member of the public would have been able to enter the cars and approach the animals, thus jeopardizing their own safety, or place items inside the cars that could adversely affect the well-being of the animals."

May 24, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide adequate veterinary care to an elephant named Jewel who has an abnormal gait and stiff front left leg. The inspector found that Jewel's stiffness did not disappear within a few minutes of walking as claimed by Ringling's veterinarian.

May 18, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to dispose of expired medications.

May 3, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide adequate veterinary care and maintain medical records for an elephant with a large swelling on her rear leg. Ringling did not have the prescribed medication on hand and the staff was unaware that the medication needed to be administered.

March 31, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain the zebra enclosure.

February 15, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide veterinary care to a camel with two actively bleeding wounds.

January 6 & 17, 2006: The USDA cited Ringling for causing trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm, and unnecessary discomfort to two elephants, Rudy and Angelica, who sustained cuts and scrapes from arena seats after becoming startled by a barking dog while performing in Puerto Rico. Ringling was also cited for failure to provide a safety barrier between the elephants and the public.

October 5, 2005: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain medical care records "for all the elephants, and Gunther in particular." There was no treatment plan for Gunther, who had been suffering from a lesion for at least five months.

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September 22, 2005: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission issued a verbal warning to Ringling for having elephant enclosure fences of insufficient height and no shelter in a paddock at its Williston facility.

September 7, 2005: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to dispose of expired and undated tuberculosis drugs. The inspector also indicated that Ringling transported an elephant named Siam from the Williston facility to the breeding compound. Ringling's tuberculosis-infected elephants are kept at Williston. Siam tested positive for tuberculosis in 1999 (see "Elephant Tuberculosis," April 16, 2001).

September 6, 2005: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide shade to an elephant named Doc who was in an outdoor pen "that does not provide any shade or shelter" at Ringling's breeding compound in Polk City, Florida.

January 26, 2005: A USDA inspector noted on an inspection report that elephants Gunther (age 3) and Angelica (age 7) had nail lesions.*

July 13, 2004: The USDA launched a formal investigation into the death of a 2-year-old lion named Clyde. According to a former Ringling employee, Clyde died after traveling through the intense heat of the Mojave Desert in a poorly ventilated boxcar.

February 20, 2003: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have a complete perimeter fence around dangerous animals at its Williston facility.

December 16, 2002: The USDA cited Ringling for keeping alpacas and goats in areas with an accumulation of debris that included wood with sharp pointed nails sticking up.

December 5, 2002: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have an appropriate perimeter fence around dangerous animals at its winter quarters.

November 7, 2002: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have four elephants tested for tuberculosis and for failure to store food in a manner that protects it from contamination.

February 21, 2002: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to dispose of expired medication, for improper feeding, and for poor sanitation.

August 25, 2001: California humane officers charged Mark Oliver Gebel, son of animal trainer Gunther Gebel-Williams, with cruelty to animals for striking and wounding an Asian elephant with a sharp metal bullhook. Gebel allegedly inflicted the injury when the elephant, named Asia, hesitated before entering the performance ring at the Compaq Center in San Jose, California.

August 24, 2001: Ringling was fined \$200.00 by the city of San Jose, California, for allowing a yak to run at large and cause a public nuisance.

August 20, 2001: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide access for inspection of animals, records, and property at its retirement center.

May 3, 2001: The USDA cited Ringling for improper food storage.

February 20, 2001: The USDA cited Ringling for improper food storage.

September 7, 2000: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide adequate veterinary care. The inspector wrote, "There is no documentation maintained on elephants that have minor lesions, scars, or abrasions. ... Records of medical treatment were not available on the camel that recently had both rear feet caught in a train track." Ringling was also cited for storing the animals' food near toxic substances and failure to maintain transport enclosures that could not be properly cleaned and sanitized.

July 12, 2000: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide adequate care in transit, failure to provide drinking water, and failure to maintain transport enclosures. The inspector wrote, "[A]nimals must be visually observed at least every four hours. ... Tiger transport vehicle is inaccessible as long as train is in motion. ... [I]t is not clear if the opportunity to water the tigers every 12 hours is available. ... Tiger transport design has allowed excessively high

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temperatures during routine transport. ... Vent failure pushed these temperatures to a point of immediate danger to the animals.”

July 5, 2000: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain the structural strength of its tiger enclosures. Two tigers had injured themselves attempting to escape cages in which an excessive rise in temperature occurred when faulty vent doors blew shut. One tiger tore at the cage, tearing the track from the door and breaking off a tooth. A tiger in another enclosure suffered an injury above the eye caused by the same faulty vent-door problem.

June 16, 2000: USDA spokesperson Jim Rogers told the *Austin American-Statesman* that the agency has two investigations pending against Ringling Bros. for possible AWA violations.

February 22, 2000: Ringling was cited for failure to maintain a transport-shift cage for the tigers because it had a hole in the floor. The USDA also cited Ringling for failure to provide minimum space for the dogs and failure to identify dogs and cats with USDA tags.

November 9, 1999: The USDA cited Ringling (for the second time) for tiger cages in need of repair. The inspector noted an elephant with chronic arthritis* was continuously housed on concrete instead of a more comfortable surface such as rubber for large hoofed animals. A female Asian elephant named Teetchie with a history of thin body condition and who tested positive for tuberculosis on September 11, 1999, was euthanized on October 28, 1999.

August 23, 1999: According to an inspection conducted by South Bay Animal Control Services, seven Ringling elephants were found to have multiple lacerations. A zoo veterinarian who reviewed photographs of these and other injuries concluded, “The majority of the wounds documented in these photographs are fresh, actively draining puncture wounds caused by an ankus or hook.”

May 27, 1999: The USDA cited Ringling for tiger cages in need of repair and locking mechanisms, as well as for failure to dispose of medications that had expired as far back as February 1996.

May 11, 1999: In a letter to Ringling Bros., USDA Deputy Administrator Ron DeHaven wrote, “We have completed our review of the lesions observed on two juvenile elephants, Doc and Angelica, during the inspection of the Center for Elephant Conservation in Polk City, Fla., on February 9, 1999. ... [W]e find that the handling of these two elephants was not in compliance with the Animal Welfare Act regulations. ... We believe there is sufficient evidence to confirm the handling of these animals caused unnecessary trauma, behavioral stress, physical harm, and discomfort to these two elephants.”

February 9, 1999: A USDA report indicated wounds on the baby elephants’ legs from separating them from their mothers. The report stated, “[T]here were large visible lesions on the rear legs of both Doc and Angelica (baby elephants). When questioned as to the cause of these lesions, it was stated by Mr. Jim Williams and Mr. Gary Jacobson that ‘these scars were caused by rope burns, resulting from the separation process from the mothers on January 6, 1999.’ Angelica’s lesion appeared as a pink linear scar, approximately 6” long and 1” wide on the right rear leg. The left rear leg also had a scar directly below the cloth leg tie. Both lesions appeared to have been treated with an iodine-based ointment. Angelica also had two linear healing scars on the back of the right hind leg. Doc had a pink scar on the right rear mid-leg area.” (Both baby elephants were just under 2 years old when taken from their mothers. In the wild, female elephants remain with their mothers their entire lives and males for up to 15 years.) Tuberculosis tests for one elephant were not available for review. No treatment was instituted for another elephant with positive tuberculosis status.

December 9, 1998: A USDA inspector noted on an inspection report that an elephant with confirmed tuberculosis was euthanized. The inspector also noted that three elephants did not have adequate shade and that an elephant named Congo had intermittent lameness and what appeared to be hyperkeratosis (a skin condition).

October 7, 1998: A USDA inspection of Ringling’s elephants found three with lameness and one with lacerations on her forehead.

October 1, 1998: The USDA cited Ringling for having a damaged transport enclosure for the hippopotamus.

September 11, 1998: A USDA inspector noted on an inspection report that three elephants (32-year-old Lechamee, 28-year-old Sofie, and 42-year-old Mini) had suffered from arthritis* for at least 12 years.

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August 28, 1998: Ringling was charged by the USDA with AWA violations for the death of Kenny, a baby Asian elephant forced to perform in Jacksonville, Florida, despite his being sick. The USDA charged the circus with failure to provide veterinary care to Kenny, and Ringling paid \$20,000 to settle the case out of court.

June 9, 1998: Ringling was cited by the USDA for failure to provide records of veterinary care for an elephant named Seetna who was euthanized due to prolonged dystocia (difficult labor).

March 26, 1998: The USDA issued Ringling a "strong letter of warning" for the killing of Arnie, a Bengal tiger. An angry trainer shot Arnie five times with a 12-gauge shotgun while he was locked in his cage.

September 5, 1997: The USDA cited Ringling (for the second time) for improper food storage. The inspector noted that a complaint about a lame elephant could not be verified because "the circus could not allow the elephants to move freely."

July 24, 1997: The USDA cited Ringling for unsanitary food storage.

February 3, 1997: The circus was cited for failure to correct a previously identified violation of unsanitary food storage.

January 21, 1997: The USDA cited Ringling for inadequate storage of animals' food.

December 20, 1996: The USDA cited Ringling for not providing environmental enrichment for primates. The USDA inspector stated, "There is no enhancement plan developed. The primates show signs of stereotypic behaviors (rocking, weaving, shaking, and cage-bar chewing and licking). All primates are housed singly. Cages have no enrichment." Ringling was also cited for not providing adequate space for a baboon. Additionally, the inspector cited Ringling for not providing adequate shelter for a hippo. He stated, "The length of the hippo is greater than the width of the hippo pool."

August 14, 1996: The USDA cited Ringling for not giving the elephants tetanus vaccinations, deworming, or fecal exams.

December 7, 1995: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to maintain tiger cages, failure to provide records of disposition for 10 elephants no longer on the premises, and improper food storage.

December 5, 1995: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to allow access to its property for an animal welfare inspection.

September 20, 1995: The USDA cited Ringling for not having a program of veterinary care. There was also no record of tetanus vaccinations.

June 8, 1995: The USDA cited Ringling for improper food storage.

February 14, 1995: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have an exercise program for the animals, as well as for animal enclosures that were in need of repair.

November 10, 1994: The USDA observed that Ringling was storing animal food in an unsanitary manner.

October 18, 1994: During a routine USDA inspection, an elephant was being beaten by a Ringling trainer. The USDA inspector stated, "Upon entering facility, I heard yelling and the sound of someone hitting something. I observed an elephant trainer hitting an elephant with the wooden end of the handling tool to get it up." A USDA inspector cited Ringling for failure to handle animals in such a way that there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and the public. Additionally, the inspector wrote, "Animals shall not be housed near animals that interfere with their health or cause them discomfort."

January 21, 1994: A USDA inspector cited Ringling for electrical wires hanging loose inside a lion's cage, causing the potential for injury or death.

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December 29, 1993: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide minimum space for dogs and for inadequate lighting in the dog enclosure. The boxes were too small “for most dogs to stand, sit, lie, and turn about freely.” Ringling was cited for failure to correct previously identified violations of not providing minimum space for bears, including one bear with rub marks; failure to repair the lion cages; and improper food storage.

December 14, 1993: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to provide bears with the minimum space required by the federal AWA. Ringling also failed to provide a program for exercise.

ANIMAL CARE

February 8, 2011: Ringling’s parent company, Feld Entertainment, released a press statement announcing that a two 2-year-old elephant named Barack has been taken off the road after veterinarians noticed early symptoms of the deadly endotheliotropic herpesvirus and Barack tested positive for the virus. This is the second time the virus has been found in Barack’s blood; he recovered from an initial diagnosis last year (see “Animal Care,” February 3, 2010). One of the leading threats to young, captive elephants, this virus is strongly associated with stress and “usually has a fatal outcome within a week of the onset of symptoms.”

February 3, 2010: PETA confirmed that a baby elephant named Barack was taken off the road because he had become infected with the deadly endotheliotropic herpesvirus. Stress is believed to be a factor in developing the elephant herpes virus infection. Barack was not even 1 year old when Ringling transported him from the Polk City, Florida, training center to the Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa in December. On January 26, the circus announced that Barack was being taken off the road after appearing in circus shows in Orlando and Jacksonville.

July 22, 2009: PETA released the findings of its months-long undercover investigation into Ringling and documented dozens of incidents in which numerous Ringling employees, including an animal superintendent and a head elephant trainer, hit elephants on the head, trunk, and ears with bullhooks, and a tiger trainer whipped tigers. PETA filed complaints with the USDA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with law enforcement agencies in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Alabama, and Virginia. Footage from the investigation is available at RinglingBeatsAnimals.com and shows trainers hitting elephants backstage just before the elephants were forced to perform for the audience and whipping tigers during practice sessions.

March 18, 2009: Evidence was presented during a federal lawsuit alleging that Ringling’s routine abuse of Asian elephants violates the Endangered Species Act. The evidence revealed that elephants are chained for an average of more than 26 hours at a time, sometimes as long as 60 to 100 hours straight; that the CEO of Feld Entertainment, which owns Ringling, witnessed handlers hitting elephants with bullhooks; that Ringling’s own animal behaviorist saw an elephant who had been struck with a bullhook dripping blood on the arena floor during a show; that in an e-mail, a Ringling veterinary assistant reported, “After this morning’s baths, at least 4 of the elephants came in with multiple abrasions and lacerations from the [bull]hooks. ... The [lacerations] were very visible ... [A handler] applied ... wonder dust just before the show”; and that another internal report documented that Troy Metzler, a longtime Ringling elephant trainer, struck Angelica, a female Asian elephant, three to five times while she was held in stocks before unloading her and then shocking her with an electric prod.

November 11, 2008: PETA contacted Feld Entertainment, which owns Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, and urged the company to stop leasing its tiger act from trainer Lance Ramos, aka Lancelot Kollmann, after the USDA confiscated an emaciated 21-year-old elephant from the trainer. The elephant, who was approximately 1 ton underweight, was so badly undernourished that his ribs, spine, and shoulder blades were protruding.

May 21, 2008: The Associated Press reported on records presented by several animal welfare groups pertaining to a federal lawsuit that was filed in 2000: “In federal court papers filed in Washington, the groups said Ringling Bros.’ own train records show the Asian elephants are chained in boxcars for an average of more than 26 straight hours, and often 60 to 70 hours at a time, when the circus travels. In some cases, the elephants have been chained on trains for 90 to 100 hours.”

November 3, 2006: Former Ringling employees Bob Tom and Archele Hundley provided PETA with signed statements that described routine abuse of animals. Among their allegations: an elephant was left covered with blood after a violent beating that lasted for 30 minutes, a horse was whipped with the metal snap on a lead for 10 minutes and was later found to have a broken tooth, a miniature horse was knocked senseless after he was repeatedly slugged in the face with such force that the sound of the handler’s fist hitting the horse’s face could be heard 20 feet away, and the elephants were forced to stand in mountains of foul-smelling feces and urine during transport.

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April 12, 2006: PETA supplied the USDA with videotape showing elephant trainer Troy Metzler abusively hooking elephants, elephants kept on the road in spite of crippling arthritis,* and elephants who were suffering from painful pressure wounds. Two elephant experts confirmed that Metzler's acts of hooking are clear abuse and that Ringling's lame elephants should not be traveling or performing.

March 2, 2006: Professional dancer Jodey Eliseo, who toured with Ringling Bros. for two years in the 1980s, wrote to a Chicago alderman in support of pending legislation that would ban bullhooks. Eliseo wrote that she saw an elephant forced to perform with a huge infected boil that covered half her leg; Ringling handlers who beat an elephant for stumbling during a performance; teenage elephant Sophie covered with bullhook wounds from constant beatings; and a baby elephant who was severely beaten as punishment for running amok and smashing through a wall at a civic center.

November 16, 2005: According to the *East Valley Tribune*, "Reba and Sheena came [to Phoenix Zoo] from Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Center for Elephant Conservation after years of circus performing, zoo officials said. Negative reinforcement, such as hits and pokes, along with years of doing unnatural tricks, caused the elephants to become aggressive and dangerous. ... Reba [who once killed a circus trainer] pulled on her own nipples and Sheena was angry and withdrawn. All were threatening to zookeepers and dangerous to one another. ... 'When you think about these animals, they had traumatic lives,' [said Geoff Hall, Phoenix Zoo vice president of living collections]."

September 6, 2005: During an examination, the USDA confirmed that a 3-year-old elephant named Gunther, who toured with Ringling's Home Edition (Gold Unit) had suffered from lameness.

August 25, 2004: According to the *Oakland Tribune*, Oakland Zoo elephant manager Colleen Kinzley described a video showing a Ringling handler hitting and jabbing an elephant as clear abuse. Kinzley also commented on video showing a chained elephant swaying neurotically, saying, "For such a young animal to be exhibiting that amount of abnormal behavior is just tragic."

July 31, 2004: According to an affidavit by former Ringling employee Frank Hagan, Ringling's elephant trainer Troy Metzler, nicknamed "Captain Hook" by circus staff, was frequently observed abusively hooking elephants, including babies, with a metal-spiked bullhook.

December 5, 2003: An elephant named Shirley, who was bred by Ringling when she was only 7 years old, gave birth to an undersized calf. Elephants in the wild begin mating at age 18. Studies show that captive elephants who breed before age 12 have shorter lifespans.

December 12, 2003: Ringling's parent company, Feld Entertainment, has refused repeated requests, including one from celebrity P!nk, to send its elephant Gildah to a sanctuary. Gildah was captured in the wild and used in Siegfried & Roy's casino act. Gildah lived a lonely life in solitary confinement at the Mirage Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas until her death in 2005.

October 6, 2002: Veterinarian Gretchen Steininger, hired by Ringling to provide medical care and defend its use of animals, as reported in the *Macomb Daily*, while the circus was in Michigan, was fined \$500 and reprimanded for negligence and incompetence by the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services on June 22, 2002.

May 6, 2001: Ringling subjected a tiger in advanced stages of pregnancy to stressful conditions associated with transport. Four tiger cubs were born on the road while the circus was performing in Columbus, Ohio.

April 8, 2001: According to *The New York Times*, a Ringling spokesperson admitted that a trainer who had been videotaped tormenting elephants was still on elephant duty.

2001: Ringling's red unit is leasing five elephants, including its star attraction, a male elephant named Bo, from the George Carden Circus. On May 1, 2001, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reported that two George Carden Circus employees had pleaded guilty to cruelty to animal charges in provincial court in St. John's, Newfoundland, and that each had been fined \$200. The charges were brought after investigators found bears kept in filthy, undersized cages for 23 hours a day. The judge stated that he wished the legislation were stronger so that he could penalize the defendants more and suggested that people stay away from the circus.

June 13, 2000: According to congressional testimony provided by former Ringling Bros. barn man Tom Rider, "[Elephants] live in confinement, and they are beaten all the time when they don't perform properly. ... When I became

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disturbed about the treatment of the elephants, the continual beatings, including the baby Benjamin, I was told, 'That's discipline.'"

May 22, 2000: A horse found suffering from life-threatening colic as the Ringling train was traveling through Pennsylvania had to wait three hours for treatment while employees searched for a large-animal veterinarian.

April 17, 2000: In comments submitted to the USDA, Ringling opposes language in the agency's "Draft Policy on Training and Handling of Potentially Dangerous Animals" that reads, "Hot shots, shocking collars, or shocking belts should not be used for training or to handle the animals during exhibition, and any such use will be closely scrutinized. An ankus may not be used in an abusive manner that causes wounds or other injuries."

1992: Ringling disposed of five tigers who were of no use to the circus by giving them to New Jersey resident Joan Byron-Marasek, who owns a poorly maintained private menagerie. One of the Ringling tigers killed four other tigers at the facility. Byron-Marasek has been charged by the USDA with failing to provide adequate veterinary care and maintain programs of disease control and prevention for her tigers, and she was charged by state officials with overcrowded conditions.

DANGER

February 19, 2010: According to The Associated Press, Lima, a zebra traveling with Ringling in Atlanta, "broke away from his trainers and bumped up against a fence, then wriggled through an opening." The animal then "galloped along a busy section of interstate." Lima led police and trainers on a 40-minute chase through downtown before being captured. A man who was startled by the fleeing zebra told *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, "All of a sudden a freaking zebra comes running down the street like a car." He continued, "Five or six police cars were in hot pursuit. And a bunch of officers on foot." The zebra was later euthanized as a result of injuries he sustained.

February 7, 2010: According to *The State*, "A startled elephant took a wrong turn backstage and broke through the main prop door leading into the Colonial Life Arena during the afternoon pre-show for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus About 100 spectators on the floor watching the pre-show saw the elephant break through the door toward them and rumble around the performance area, just a few feet away." The pre-show ended early as a result of the incident.

March 22, 2008: According to The Associated Press, three zebras, Mali, Giza, and Lima, escaped from the 1st Mariner Arena located in downtown Baltimore, Maryland, and dashed into traffic. The same three zebras had escaped in June 2007 during the circus's Colorado visit.

January 15, 2008: The *Miami New Times* reported that Ringling Bros. issued a statement claiming that Ringling elephant trainer Joe Frisco Jr. "received minor injuries after falling while walking with a juvenile elephant in the elephant barn in Miami." PETA had received a whistleblower report alleging that Frisco was actually attacked by an elephant named P.T. and sustained injuries severe enough to send him to the hospital. During trial testimony on March 9, 2009, Ringling trainer Gary Jacobson confirmed that Joe Frisco Jr. was knocked down by P.T. Frisco is the brother of elephant trainer Tim Frisco, who was caught on tape viciously beating elephants with bullhooks and shocking them with electric prods for the Carson & Barnes Circus.

June 16, 2007: According to The Associated Press, four zebras and three horses who were being walked into an arena for practice became spooked. The animals reportedly ran loose along a road near a busy interstate for 30 minutes while Ringling was performing in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

April 13, 2005: Elephant handler David Mannes was airlifted to a medical center to treat a fractured pelvis and soft tissue wound to his arm after being knocked down and kicked by an elephant named Tova while feeding the elephants at Ringling's breeding compound in Polk City, Florida.

June 13, 2000: Congressional testimony by Tom Rider, a former Ringling employee, identifies Ringling's elephant Karen as a killer: "Although she was the most dangerous elephant in the group, she is the one they used in the three-ring adventure where the public is allowed to stand around the elephant with no safety net or other protection around her. Karen had a habit of knocking anyone who came into range, slamming them into the ground, yet they allowed her to have contact with the audience."

September 1999: Two frightened zebras who were tethered together escaped twice from their handler and ran toward a main street while being transferred from the arena between performances in San Jose, California.

November 1998: Three tigers escaped from their cage in a Chicago parking lot. A Ringling handler was hospitalized in serious condition with bite wounds over much of his body when he was attacked by one of the tigers.

September 30, 1995: A Ringling lion bit off the index finger of a 31-year-old woman attending the circus.

May 6, 1993: A Ringling elephant killed her trainer in Gainesville, Florida. The elephant knocked down the 51-year-old trainer and stepped on his chest.

IMPEDING INVESTIGATIONS

August 24, 2004: The Associated Press reported that Ringling's parent company, Feld Entertainment, refused two recent subpoenas from the USDA, requiring Feld to provide a video of the October 3, 2003, tiger attack of Roy Horn to aid in the agency's investigation.

July 13, 2004: According to an affidavit by former Ringling lion handler Frank Hagan, employees who had knowledge of how a lion named Clyde died after traveling through the intense heat of the Mojave Desert in a poorly ventilated boxcar were instructed not to speak to USDA inspectors who were investigating the death. Ringling quickly had misters installed in the lions' boxcar before USDA officials arrived.

March 26, 2001: An internal USDA memo stated, "This is a request to subpoena to compel testimony and provide documentation ... under the AWA. ... I have been involved in an investigation into allegations of elephant abuse and exhibiting elephants infected with TB by Ringling Brothers Circus. ... The investigation has been very frustrating in that Feld Entertainment has not been cooperative with allowing the USDA to review medical records on the elephants, and the key witnesses will not cooperate due to court settlements with Feld Entertainment that prevent them from discussing any circus issues with anyone."

August 23, 1999: According to an incident report from the Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley, Ringling veterinarian Bill Lindsay and two other circus employees surrounded a humane investigator in a threatening manner and angrily confronted the investigator in an attempt to impede an investigation into bloody lacerations found on numerous elephants.

August 6, 1999: The USDA was forced to subpoena a necropsy report from Texas A&M University's veterinary laboratory for Benjamin, a 4-year-old elephant who drowned, after Ringling ignored AWA requirements and two investigators' July 28 requests for the documents.

February 25, 1999: According to internal USDA memos written by inspectors, detailing injuries found on two baby elephants during a February 9, 1999, inspection, "[Ringling veterinarian] Dr. Lindsay was very upset and asked repeatedly why we could not be more collegial and call him before we came. I explained to him that all our inspections are unannounced. ... All Ringling personnel were very reluctant to let us take pictures [of the calves' rope lesions]." Ringling personnel were described as "badgering," "disgusted," "antagonistic," and "defensive" toward the inspectors.

ELEPHANT TUBERCULOSIS

December 17, 2010: An e-mail to a Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency officer from Dr. Dennis Schmitt, Ringling's chair of veterinary care and director of research and conservation, revealed that an elephant named Karen, who was on the road with the circus, had tested positive for tuberculosis. According to the U.S. Animal Health Association, Karen is considered to be infected with the deadly disease, and she was subsequently denied entry into the state of Tennessee.

April 16, 2007: A Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission captive wildlife inspection report noted that Ringling's breeding compound in Polk City, which housed 30 elephants, was still under a tuberculosis watch.

January 18, 2007: According to documents obtained from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Ringling veterinarian Dr. Ellen Wiedner called an official with the Florida Bureau of Animal Disease Control in an attempt to persuade the agency not to issue a state quarantine in order to avoid negative publicity after laboratory

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tests confirmed the growth of tuberculosis on a lung sample from a deceased elephant who had been housed at Ringling's Williston, Florida, facility.

September 5, 2006: Two elephants at Ringling's Polk City, Florida, breeding facility tested positive for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the human strain of tuberculosis that can pass from elephant to human, and three female elephants were pulled out of the traveling units because they had been exposed to at least one of the infected elephants.

September 22, 2005: A Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission captive wildlife inspection report noted that four out of eight elephants (Siam, India, Tilly, and Prince) housed at Ringling's Williston facility tested positive for tuberculosis in 2001.

September 7, 2005: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to dispose of expired and undated tuberculosis drugs. The inspector also indicated that Ringling transported an elephant named Siam from the Williston facility to the breeding compound. Ringling's tuberculosis-infected elephants are kept at Williston. Siam tested positive for tuberculosis in 1999 (see April 16, 2001).

October 9, 2004: A 44-year-old Asian elephant named Roma was euthanized because of osteoarthritis.* A necropsy revealed that Roma had tuberculosis.

November 7, 2002: The USDA cited Ringling for failure to have four elephants tested for tuberculosis. The inspector wrote, "[Tuberculosis] is a disease that is dangerous to both man and animals. Animals must be tested in a timely manner for their protection as well as for their handlers."

August 30, 2001: According to an article on Salon.com titled, "The Greatest Vendetta on Earth," a 163-page sworn deposition given by Joel Kaplan, a private eye who had performed security and wire-tapping services for a Feld Entertainment subsidiary for 20 years, stated, "[Ringling] had some real problems with the elephants. ... I was told [by the circus veterinarian] ... that about half of the elephants in each of the shows had tuberculosis and that the tuberculosis was an easily transmitted disease to individuals, to human beings. ... I was asked by Chuck [Smith], through Kenneth [Feld], to find a physician who would test the people [in] the circus to see if they had tuberculosis but who would destroy the records and not turn them [in to] the Centers for Disease Control [and Prevention]."

April 16, 2001: An affidavit from a veterinarian at the National Veterinary Services Laboratories stated that Ringling elephants Tectchie, Vance, Sabu, Mala, Dolly, Calcutta 2, and Siam tested positive for tuberculosis.

September 6, 2000: The USDA cited Ringling for failing to provide veterinary care to an elephant named Tillie who has been diagnosed with tuberculosis. Tillie, who is owned by Patricia Zerbini, is under the care of Ringling's Williston facility and commingled with other elephants, which puts them at risk for infection or reinfection.

October 28, 1999: A 52-year-old Asian elephant named Teetchie was euthanized due to multiple joints affected by osteoarthritis* and an *M. tuberculosis* infection of the lung.

September 16, 1999: Ringling's Williston, Fla., facility was quarantined by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services because of elephants' having tuberculosis.

February 9, 1999: A USDA report indicated that tuberculosis tests for one elephant were not available for review and no treatment was instituted for another elephant with positive tuberculosis status.

DECLINING POPULARITY

January 17, 2011: *The Times-Tribune* of Corbin, Kentucky, reported that Ringling canceled one of its performances in the town because of low ticket sales.

January 12, 2009: Florida's Blood Centers pledged to stop offering free Ringling tickets to blood donors after its executives spoke with PETA.

January 8, 2009: D'Agostino, a New York grocery-store chain, ended its promotional partnership with Ringling after PETA contacted the company. The stores were distributing coupons for discounted Ringling tickets.

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November 17, 2008: Michigan-based home-repair company Hanson's Windows agreed to end its Ringling ticket giveaway after hearing from PETA.

July 29, 2008: Fitwize4Kids, a national healthy-lifestyle center for children, stopped participating in Ringling's Circus Fit program after PETA informed it of problems with Ringling's animal care.

March 15, 2008: The president of Harris Teeter, a Southeastern supermarket chain, confirmed in an e-mail to PETA that "[g]oing forward we will not be supporting Circus promotions [and] we already have turned one sponsorship down." The food giant had been promoting Ringling in some of its 200 stores.

August 1, 2008: In a report about the circus' Anaheim, Calif., performance, the *Highland Community News* wrote, "Surprisingly, the amazing acts with ... elephants and Bengal tigers did not receive as large a response from the audience as the seven motorcycle riders zooming around at the same time inside the 'Globe of Steel.'"

January 22, 2008: Lukoil Americas agreed not to hold any more promotional events with Ringling and vowed not to partner with or sponsor the circus at any of its more than 2,000 gas stations.

January 7, 2008: Denny's confirmed that it had ended its partnership with Ringling in December 2007, less than six months after announcing the joint promotions. The move came after months of PETA protests and consumer complaints.

December 8, 2006: Lucky Brand Jeans pulled T-shirts emblazoned with the Ringling Bros. logo off store shelves and the company's Web site after learning from PETA of the animal abuse associated with the circus and to ensure a pleasant shopping experience for compassionate consumers.

November 2, 2006: According to a news report on WJLA TV, the D.C. Armory, which had hosted Ringling in Washington, D.C., for 33 years, announced that the circus would no longer be performing at the venue. The report indicated that the Sports and Entertainment Commission, which operates the Armory, announced that it had been losing money on the show.

April 15, 2005: The *Philadelphia Daily News* reported, "The circus elephants are coming to town next week, bringing an outmoded and problematic form of entertainment to all Philadelphians. Here's hoping that this is the last year such an antiquated spectacle is welcomed within our city limits."

March 29, 2005: *The New York Times* reported, "They are still the ones cracking whips as Bengal tigers (beautiful but a little fat) walk in circles, occasionally roar and run in and out of cages that look too small for them. Their trainer, Taba, did not seem worthy of them. But our consciousness has changed. We worry about how the animals are trained and treated."

February 14, 2005: The *Star-Telegram* reported, "[I]n less than two decades, the Canadian entertainment phenomenon [animal-free Cirque du Soleil] has reached levels of revenues that it took Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey more than 100 years to attain."

November 20, 2004: The *Hamilton Spectator* (Ontario, Canada) reported, "[Production manager Brian Newman] said the circus has lost some of its appeal, which may account for fair ticket sales at each of this weekend's five shows at Cops Coliseum. Organizers say none of the shows at the modified 4,000-seat venue are sold out. ... [B]ehind the scenes, allegations of animal cruelty involving its elephants [has] plagued Ringling Bros. ... A *Spectator* reporter's request to view the elephants was declined."

November 5, 2004: The Chicago-area *Daily Herald* reported, "Less enthralling, at least to those of us who go to the circus every year, are those acts that seem to appear in every edition of the circus: the high-wire acts, the marching elephants, the motorcyclists that zoom around the inside of a metal sphere. ... Rating: 1/2 out of four stars."

March 5, 2004: MasterCard International dropped its controversial sponsorship of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. MasterCard joins Visa and Sears, Roebuck and Co. to become the third national sponsor to end its Ringling promotions amid a flood of complaints.

October 26, 2003: *The Capital-Journal* reported, "[T]he Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, which hadn't been to Topeka in 12 years, had 'dismal numbers.'"

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March 26, 2002: The *New York Daily News* reported, "I went to see the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Madison Square Garden. ... The Garden was half full. ... The tigers moved with the half-speed of a Municipal Building bureaucrat and were more stoned than the bums you had to step over in Penn Station on the way into the Garden. ... [M]y little guy's favorite attraction was the giant industrial dung vacuum."

August 17, 2001: According to *The Wichita Eagle*, Ringling failed to secure a date at the Kansas Coliseum because of concerns about its declining circus attendance.

November 3, 2000: The *Chicago Sun-Times* reported, "Founded in 1871, the 'greatest show on earth' has steep competition these days from artier circuses, such as Cirque du Soleil, that rely more on theatrics than on lions and tigers and bears, oh my. This may explain why the east and west wings of the venue were empty."

September 19, 2000: *The Seattle Times* reported, "More than anything, I noticed how many seats were empty, how The Greatest Show on Earth was more of a no-show here in Seattle than anything else."

May 21, 2000: The *Dayton Daily News* reported, "But the most amazing thing of all wasn't even what was going on in the three rings [at Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus]. It was to be seen elsewhere in the arena, up in the seats. In all the empty seats. ... [T]he show we attended was nowhere close to sold out. In fact, the place was nearly empty."

November 19, 1999: The *Chicago Tribune* reported, "Last Thursday's performance of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at the 16,000-seat Allstate Arena was so small that two of the three rings were playing to rafts of empty seats. Attendees at several other first-week performances reported similarly small houses."

November 8, 1999: The *Chicago Sun-Times* reported, "As master of ceremonies, baby-faced Johnathan Lee Iverson was a congenial [Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus] ringmaster who didn't let on if the half-empty venue affected him."

September 17, 1999: *The Indianapolis News* reported, "Attendance continues to dwindle when Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus comes to town."

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

April 19, 2005: According to the *Centre Daily*, Ringling animal trainer Sacha Houcke was charged with simple assault in University Park, Pennsylvania, after "two employees of the Bryce Jordan Center called police and reported witnessing Houcke choke his daughter, push her to the ground and punch her in the face while they were working with the circus horses." On May 25, 2005, Houcke entered a guilty plea to harassment and disorderly conduct citations and paid a \$300 fine.

March 6, 2005: According to the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Ringling animal handler Bryan Phipps was arrested for a 2001 aggravated bank robbery while the circus was performing in Cincinnati, Ohio. Phipps, who was hired by the circus in December 2001, spent six years in Ohio prisons in the 1990s after being convicted of drug trafficking, carrying a concealed weapon, aggravated robbery, and kidnapping. Police officials stated that several other agencies had warrants for his arrest, including a felony drug possession charge.

May 24, 2004: Thomas Allen Riccio, a Ringling circus clown performing under the name "Spanky," was arrested in Fayetteville, N.C., and charged with 10 counts of third-degree sexual exploitation of a minor. Authorities allegedly found 2,000 pictures on Riccio's computer, which was kept in his room on the circus train, of child pornography that depicted girls as young as 5 years old engaged in sexual activity with adults.

May 2, 2003: According to a report on CBS program *60 Minutes*, suburban soccer mom and freelance journalist Jan Pottker filed a lawsuit against Ringling for fraud and conspiracy. Pottker charged that Ringling spent an estimated \$3 million over an eight-year period in an attempt to sabotage her writing career after she wrote an unflattering article about the circus.

September 26, 2002: According to *The Salt Lake Tribune*, a Ringling acrobat was arrested and jailed in Idaho on charges of sexual battery against a 16-year-old girl. The acrobat allegedly dragged the victim back into his sleeping

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quarters, slammed the door, and assaulted her. The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service also ordered the acrobat to be held.

November 10, 2000: A Ringling employee was arrested in Rosemont, Illinois, after police identified him from a fingerprint left behind when he allegedly mugged an Ohio woman at knifepoint a month earlier. The circus worker, who had been convicted of aggravated burglary and drug abuse in 1989, was suspected of committing a string of recent armed muggings.

November 21, 1998: The *Calgary Herald* reported that the goat Ringling featured in 1980 as a “unicorn” was purchased from serial killer Leonard Thomas Lake. Lake abducted, tortured, raped, and murdered women before committing suicide when he was finally arrested in 1985. The “unicorn” was actually a mutilated goat whose horns had been manipulated to grow in the center of the animal’s forehead.

March 17, 1998: The *Mountain Xpress* reported that a Ringling employee, who was on parole after serving seven years on a New York murder conviction, was arrested in connection with two break-ins and liquor theft at an Asheville, North Carolina, liquor store.

April 13, 1997: A Ringling employee was arrested in Worcester, Massachusetts, on a fugitive-from-justice warrant, which listed a charge of counterfeiting.

November 19, 1994: Ringling’s vice president of animal care Gunther Gebel-Williams, was arrested in St. Louis and charged with disturbing the peace. Gebel-Williams had screamed at a police officer and threatened the officer with the whip that he uses on his tigers because officers were giving traffic tickets to circus customers.

October 19, 1994: A Ringling employee in Boston, Massachusetts, was arrested and charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon when he stabbed a horse trainer in the stomach with a penknife. A fight had broken out when the employee had tried to get the horses to kick the trainer.

April 19, 1994: A railroad official testified that a circus-train brake operator who helped conduct a safety inspection just before a deadly Ringling train derailment had failed a drug test after the wreck. A clown and an elephant trainer were killed in the crash.

January 17, 1994: Two Ringling performers were arrested in Post Orange, Florida, and charged with disorderly intoxication. One of the men was also charged with resisting arrest with violence after he swung at the arresting officer and tried to push the patrol car into the officer.

*Captivity-induced foot problems and arthritis are the leading reasons for the euthanasia of captive elephants.

APPENDIX B

CAPTIVE ANIMAL INCIDENTS (BEARS, BIG CATS, ELEPHANTS, PRIMATES)



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Bear Incidents in the United States

The following is a partial listing of incidents involving captive bears in the United States since 1990. These incidents have resulted in five human deaths and more than 40 human injuries. Contact PETA for documentation.

August 19, 2010/Columbia Station, Ohio: A 24-year-old man was attacked and severely mauled by an adult black bear as he fed the animal at the private menagerie of Sam Mazzola. The man was flown to a medical center, where he died approximately six hours later.

July 21, 2010/Cherokee, North Carolina: A 9-year-old girl was bitten by a bear at Chief Saunooke Bear Park. The child sustained scratches on her palm and the back of her hand and tooth marks near her wrist bone. This was the second documented bite by a bear at the park in the span of a week and at least the third incident in the past eight months (see December 7, 2009/Cherokee, North Carolina.)

July 2010/Mulberry Grove, Illinois: A worker at the menagerie of Gregg and Karen Woody was bitten on the side of the breast by a bear. As she walked past the enclosure, the bear reached her head through a feeding slot and bit the woman, who was treated at a hospital.

December 7, 2009/Cherokee, North Carolina: A 75-year-old caretaker at Chief Saunooke Bear Park was attacked by a bear as she was giving the animals water. An Asian black bear bit the woman's hand and wrist and wouldn't let go. As a coworker physically pulled the woman's arm out of the bear's mouth and through the cage bars, the skin on the woman's forearm was severely abraded and sustained a "degloving-like injury." The woman also sustained skin lacerations near her mouth and hairline. The victim was airlifted to a hospital for treatment and remained hospitalized nine days later.

October 4, 2009/Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania: Kelly Ann Walz was attacked and killed by her 350-pound "pet" black bear while she was cleaning the cage. A neighbor shot and killed the bear as the animal was about to leave the cage. The victim's two young children and the neighbor's children witnessed the attack. Walz was pronounced dead at the scene.

November 24, 2008/Marengo, Ohio: A 300- to 400-pound "pet" black bear escaped the chain-link enclosure in which the animal was being kept and went to the home of a neighbor, who encountered the bear on his porch. When the bear's owner, Harry Wilson, came to retrieve the bear, the animal reared up and charged him. Wilson shot the bear with a .22 caliber rifle. The bear was hit above the eye and fled into the woods. Deputies and an Ohio Division of Wildlife officer using night-vision goggles searched for the bear, who was shot and killed approximately an hour and a half later.

September 19, 2008/Mount Gilead, Ohio: A nearly 500-pound "pet" black bear owned by Shane Mayberry was shot and killed by a sheriff's deputy after the animal attacked and bit the officer in the leg. The bear had a history of escapes and aggressive behavior. The deputy was treated at a local hospital for two puncture wounds to the leg.

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June 24, 2008/Rising Sun, Maryland: Two black bears escaped from an enclosure at the Plumpton Park Zoo when a zookeeper failed to secure two latches and lock a door to the enclosure. One of the bears was euthanized because she became aggressive and the zoo did not have adequate safety equipment, trained personnel, and tranquilization equipment to safely recapture her.

April 28, 2008/Muskegon, Michigan: A bear escaped from the West Michigan Society for the Protection and Care of Animals shelter and was tranquilized and recaptured eight days later.

April 22, 2008/Big Bear City, California: A 7½-foot-tall, 700-pound male grizzly bear named Rocky attacked and killed one of three men who were working with the animal at Predators in Action, a facility that trains animals for use in movies and television. The victim was bitten on the neck, could not be revived by paramedics, and was pronounced dead at the scene. Pepper spray was used to subdue and contain the bear, who had recently been featured in the movie *Semi-Pro*.

November 17, 2007/Farmington, Pennsylvania: A young woman was attacked by a bear at Woodland Zoo & More when she approached the cage during a “behind-the-scenes” tour. The bear swiped at her and then tried to drag her hand further into the cage. She was flown via medical helicopter to a hospital. The man who had stepped in to release her from the bear’s grip required stitches for a severe laceration.

November 2, 2007/Coram, Montana: An employee at the Great Bear Adventure drive-through park was attacked by a brown bear and flown to a hospital to be treated for multiple bite wounds.

September 27, 2007/West Palm Beach, Florida: Two 100-pound bear cubs escaped from an enclosure at the Palm Beach Zoo by squeezing through a gap that they had created. The bears were later tranquilized and recaptured.

September 15, 2007/Pigeon Forge, Tennessee: An employee at the Smoky Mountain Zoological Park was attacked by an Asian sloth bear while the employee was cleaning a pen. A malfunctioning gate allowed the bear to reenter the pen and maul the woman, tearing away most of the ligaments and tissues above her right hip and causing permanent injuries and disfigurement.

December 2, 2006/Uhrichsville, Ohio: A 4-year-old boy was airlifted to the hospital after one of his fingers was bitten off at the first knuckle by a black bear. The boy had stuck his hand into a cage housing two bears at the Patterson Wildlife Ranch, which was owned by his grandfather.

October 2006/Branson, Missouri: A grizzly bear at Predator World escaped from an enclosure, gained access to an adjoining enclosure, and killed an adult female tiger.

May 22, 2006/Ashtabula County, Ohio: A woman was mauled by a 500-pound black bear who had escaped from a nearby animal compound known as Grand River Fur Exchange. The bear forced his way into the woman’s home, knocked her to the floor, and attacked her. The woman’s daughter hit and tugged at the animal but was unable to stop the attack until she lured the bear away with food. The woman was flown by emergency medical helicopter to the hospital and taken into surgery. She sustained a bruised lung, a broken rib, a severe laceration on her head, significant damage to one ear, and lacerations and bites from the top of her head to her feet. The bear was shot through the lung and killed at the scene.

May 2006/Pocahontas County, West Virginia: A 400-pound Asian brown bear belonging to David Cassell escaped from an enclosure and was never found.

February 18, 2006/Richmond, Virginia: A 4-year-old boy was bitten by a black bear at Maymont Park when he climbed a 4-foot wooden fence and stuck his hand into a cage housing two bears. The boy was treated at a nearby hospital, and both bears were killed to be tested for rabies.

February 1, 2006/Flora, Illinois: An 80-year-old man was killed by a black bear who had escaped from a cage at a defunct petting zoo. The bear was shot and killed by a sheriff’s deputy during the attack. Later, another bear at the zoo was killed by an off-duty deputy at the owner’s request.

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December 19, 2005/Chanute, Kansas: A “pet” bear, who had repeatedly escaped from captivity, followed a sheriff’s deputy to his patrol car and climbed on top of the car. When the animal grabbed the driver’s side mirror, the deputy beat the bear’s nose with a flashlight. The bear let go and then went missing again shortly thereafter.

November 6, 2004/Sarasota, Florida: A trainer was bitten by a bear at the Rosaire Big Cat Habitat and flown to the hospital to be treated for injuries.

September 11, 2004/Hanna City, Illinois: An employee at Wildlife Prairie State Park was attacked by a 300-pound black bear who had escaped from an unlocked cage. The man suffered bites to his right shoulder and left leg, and the flesh and muscle were torn from his right leg below the hip and above the knee, resulting in nerve and artery damage.

July 21, 2004/Coram, Montana: A grizzly bear at the Great Bear Adventure drive-through park swatted at a visitor’s car window, breaking it. The driver sustained multiple cuts to her arm from broken glass.

July 10, 2004/Coram, Montana: An employee at the Great Bear Adventure drive-through park was attacked by a 600-pound grizzly bear. The man was knocked to the ground by the bear and sustained numerous puncture wounds and a punctured lung.

May 1, 2004/Silver Springs, Florida: A worker at the World of Bears theme park was attacked by a Kodiak bear who gnawed on her arm and caused severe injuries requiring extensive reconstructive surgery and physical therapy.

February 5, 2004/St. Louis, Missouri: A keeper at the Saint Louis Zoo was attacked by a 6-year-old Malayan sun bear while cleaning the pen. The man suffered bites to his arms and legs and was treated at a hospital for cuts and puncture wounds.

2004/Queensbury, New York: A bear cub who was on exhibit at a AAA office by the Ashville Game Farm and Exotic Zoo bit a person in the face.

2004/Perrysburg, Ohio: Kenneth Hetrick, owner of a roadside zoo called Tiger Ridge Exotics, was mauled by two grizzly bears while he was cleaning a cage. As a female bear grabbed him and tried to drag him into the den box, a 700-pound male bear attacked him from behind. The male bear hit Hetrick on the head, almost knocking him unconscious, then picked him up, threw him, and shook him multiple times. Hetrick stated, “I looked like I had been in a hatchet fight,” and said that it had taken hours for the doctor to stitch up his many wounds.

December 11, 2003/Natural Bridge, Virginia: Two Asiatic bears escaped from an enclosure at the Natural Bridge Zoo when a worker failed to latch a gate properly. One of the bears broke into a residential home through a window, “stood up and growled” when he encountered the homeowner, and then was shot dead by the zoo owner and a sheriff’s deputy. The second bear took a swipe at the man as he ran from his home, was shot twice, and then ran into nearby woods where she was shot and killed by a hunter two days later.

August 26, 2003/Rainier, Washington: A black bear escaped for the fourth time from a private exotic animal menagerie and was on the loose for an hour before being lured back into a cage by neighbors and a sheriff’s deputy.

June 14, 2003/Idaville, Indiana: A woman on a tour of Great Cats of Indiana had part of her left index finger bitten off by a bear when she reached into the cage.

March 7, 2003/Golconda, Illinois: The Pope County sheriff’s department warned residents to beware of a 7-foot, 500-pound “pet” black bear who had escaped from a man’s home.

November 8, 2002/Omaha, Nebraska: A 5-foot black bear at Kipling’s Animal Refuge escaped by digging his way out of an enclosure. The bear was spotted on the road by a passerby and recaptured by deputies.

December 11, 2001/Racine, Minnesota: A 10-month-old bear cub escaped from Bearcat Hollow animal park and damaged a neighboring farmhouse.

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August 26, 2001/Marshallville, Ohio: A 4-year-old black bear attacked a 2-year-old boy who was climbing around the bear cage. After being bitten and clawed, the boy was rushed to the hospital, where he was admitted for reconstructive surgery to his calf. The bear was his grandfather's "pet," and the family disposed of the bear after the incident.

April 10, 2001/Verndale, Minnesota: A man was hospitalized in stable condition after he was mauled by the family's "pet" bear while he was repairing the cage in the family's backyard corncrib.

June 11, 2000/Natural Bridge, Virginia: A visitor to the Natural Bridge Zoo was bitten and/or scratched by one of a group of three Asiatic bear cubs.

June 6, 2000/Broken Arrow, Oklahoma: A 3-year-old black bear at Safari's Exotic Animal Sanctuary who had been spayed and declawed attacked a handler when he entered the cage for feeding. The handler was hospitalized with bite wounds to his arms and legs as well as a severed artery. One gash was 4 inches long, a half-inch wide, and a half-inch deep. Handlers routinely enter bear cages to "hug" the animals at this facility. This was the same bear who attacked a different handler on June 1. The bear was euthanized.

June 1, 2000/Broken Arrow, Oklahoma: A 3-year-old black bear at Safari's Exotic Animal Sanctuary attacked a handler, who required 20 stitches after being bitten on both wrists.

December 13, 1999/Ellijay, Georgia: A 500-pound, 7-foot Himalayan bear attacked a man who was feeding the bear at a roadside zoo called Ellijay Wildlife Rehabilitation Sanctuary. The man was hospitalized in serious condition and underwent surgery to his arm. The bear was shot and killed.

April 2, 1998/Reform, Missouri: A 600-pound "pet" black bear, who had been kept in a 15-foot-by-15-foot cage for a decade, bit and nearly severed the hand of a 6-year-old boy who tried to pet him on his grandfather's farm. Doctors reattached the boy's hand, which was connected by 1½ inches of skin. The bear was killed.

March 18, 1997/Grand Rapids, Michigan: A bear with Tarzan Zerbini Circus performing for Shriners bit off the tip of a 2-year-old child's finger. The child had to undergo surgery to repair her finger. There were no safety barriers around the bear cages, and 30 other children had been petting the bear.

December 29, 1996/Coal County, Oklahoma: An 8-year-old girl was clawed by a neighbor's 6-foot-tall, 300-pound "pet" black bear when she tried to pet the animal. The girl suffered a broken arm and deep gashes or bites.

September 28, 1996/Whitmire, South Carolina: An 8-year-old boy lost part of his finger when he was slashed by his great-grandmother's "pet" bear while helping to feed the animals.

May 21, 1995/Spring Hill, Kansas: A woman was hospitalized after she was bitten on the thigh by her "pet" black bear when she entered the cage.

September 12, 1994/Anchorage, Alaska: A polar bear at the Alaska Zoo mauled a teenager who got too close to the cage. The 19-year-old was hospitalized in serious condition with leg injuries. This is the same bear who had mauled a woman in July.

July 30, 1994/Anchorage, Alaska: A polar bear at the Alaska Zoo badly mauled a woman who got too close to the cage in order to take photos.

September 30, 1993/Prophetstown, Illinois: A trained "circus" bear inflicted bite wounds on a man's arm and legs when the man tried to pet him through the cage. The bear was later killed. This is the same bear who had mauled a person in October 1992.

September 22, 1993/Newberg Township, Michigan: A man was fatally mauled by his brother-in-law's "pet" black bear when he entered the pen for feeding. Police killed the bear.

July 28, 1993/Patterson, New York: A declawed and defanged 23-year-old Himalayan black bear who had been used in circuses escaped from an enclosure and disappeared into nearby woods.

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October 1992/Prophetstown, Illinois: A trained "circus" bear mauled a man.

February 25, 1992/Dane County, Wisconsin: A man underwent surgery to repair torn tendons in his ankle after he was attacked by a bear while participating in a bear "wrestling" event sponsored by Jungleworld Animal Rental Agency.

October 29, 1990/Galesburg, Michigan: A 10-year-old boy, his mother, and his grandfather were mauled by one of the family's "pet" bears while cleaning the cages.

March 28, 1990/Cincinnati, Ohio: A polar bear at the Cincinnati Zoo bit off a keeper's right arm while the woman was feeding the animal. A jury later awarded the keeper nearly \$3.5 million. The keeper charged that the zoo had made the 800-pound bear hostile by keeping him in a 10-foot cage without lighting, recreation, or ventilation.



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Big Cat Incidents in the United States

The following is a partial listing of incidents involving captive big cats in the United States since 1990. These incidents have resulted in the deaths of 86 big cats, the deaths of 21 humans, and more than 235 human injuries. Contact PETA for documentation.

August 2011/Weedsport, New York: A serval escaped from an enclosure through a gap in the fencing and was killed on the highway.

July 17, 2011/Manchester, Iowa: An adult tiger attacked Tom Sellner, the owner of the Cricket Hollow Zoo, while he was feeding the animal at his facility. The *Des Moines Register* wrote that Sellner and his wife “are routinely bitten or clawed” and that in this incident, “[t]he tiger had ripped the meat from the bone of his upper arm, had practically scalped him with front teeth the size of knife blades. His left ear dangled from his head.” Sellner, who was found to be in violation of Iowa’s Dangerous Wild Animal law, was flown to an Iowa City hospital for treatment.

May 6, 2011/Wichita, Kansas: A 7-year-old boy on a fieldtrip with the Linwood Elementary School was mauled by an Amur leopard when the child climbed over a guard rail at the Sedgwick County Zoo. According to a witness, the leopard remained inside the cage but had his “claws into the little boy’s face, and [was] gnawing his neck.” A man reportedly had to kick the cat in the head to get the cat to release the boy, who was later taken to a hospital with face and neck injuries.

November 27, 2010/Readstown, Wisconsin: The USDA cited the licensees of Kickapoo Bobcat & Lynx, exotic animal breeders, for failing to demonstrate adequate experience and knowledge of a wild animal when a volunteer was scratched on the face by a bobcat while trying to place water in the enclosure.

November 19, 2010/San Antonio, Texas: A cougar escaped from the Wild Animal Orphanage while cages were being moved. Law enforcement officers searched for the animal for eight hours, during which time the cougar attacked and nearly killed a puppy. Area schools were put on alert, and recess was canceled at the elementary school. The cougar was ultimately tranquilized and recaptured.

October 22, 2010/Rock Springs, Wisconsin: A volunteer at Wisconsin Big Cat Rescue and Education Center was severely bitten by an adult tiger who grabbed the man’s arm and pulled it into the cage while the man was providing water to the big cat. Other volunteers helped the victim extract his arm from the cage, and the man was flown by helicopter to a hospital where he underwent surgery on his hand and arm.

October 2, 2010/Idaville, Indiana: Two 900-to-1,000-pound tigers escaped from a cage at a private menagerie called Great Cats of Indiana. The tigers pushed out the corner post of a cage, which was held together with approximately 10 16-penny nails. The tigers were reportedly acting aggressively and were shot by the facility’s owner. One tiger was killed after being shot four times in the head and twice in the body with a .223 rifle and twice in body with a 12-gauge shotgun. The other sustained a wound to the abdomen from a 12-gauge shotgun. The tigers were loose for at least 13 hours before they were shot.

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September 5, 2010/Essex County, New Jersey: A leopard escaped from an enclosure at the Turtle Back Zoo and hid behind a retaining wall in a zoo service building. Visitors were moved to safe areas and the zoo was closed for approximately 45 minutes while the leopard was sedated and recaptured.

September 1, 2010/Las Vegas, Nevada: Numerous visitors looked on as an adult male lion attacked a trainer at the MGM Grand lion habitat. The victim was treated at a hospital and received stitches for a bite on the leg.

August 28, 2010/Miami, Florida: While chasing an escaped gibbon, a 500-pound tiger jumped over a 12-foot fence and escaped from an enclosure at Jungle Island. At one point the tiger came face to face with a two-year-old toddler. More than 100 park visitors were ushered into a dark barn for protection. Four people were hurt during the chaos and were treated for minor injuries. A fifth person was transported to a hospital after suffering a panic attack.

April 23, 2010/Rockwell, North Carolina: A 100-pound tiger broke through plastic glass while being loaded onto a trailer at Tiger World, an unaccredited zoo. For several moments, the escaped tiger was on a leash but not under the control of a handler. The tiger passed 20 to 30 feet directly in front of two families with young children, all of whom ran and hid behind a cash-register area. The USDA later ordered Tiger World to pay a \$2,571 penalty for this incident.

April 15, 2010/Beltrami County, Minnesota: Two 100-pound adolescent African lions bumped open a gate and escaped from an enclosure at Paul Bunyan's Animal Land. The two lions were found wrestling with a dog in the front yard of a home in a residential neighborhood approximately two blocks away.

April 2010/Brown County, Ohio: A cougar who had been purchased as a "pet" at a flea market escaped and remained on the loose a month later.

February 19, 2010/Palm Beach County, Florida: A jaguar at the Panther Ridge Conservation Center grabbed a woman's hand and tore off her thumb when the woman wrapped her fingers around a part of an enclosure. This was at least the third dangerous incident at the facility in the past five years (see March 29, 2008/Wellington, Florida, and February 26, 2005/Wellington, Florida).

October 10, 2009/Cleveland, Ohio: An adult clouded leopard escaped from an enclosure at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo when a wire in the cage broke. The leopard was tranquilized and recaptured.

July 30, 2009/Las Vegas, Nevada: A 400-pound tiger belonging to the Fercos Brothers magic act escaped while being walked on a leash outside the owners' gated property. The tiger ran after a rabbit, causing Tony Fercos to fall and drop the leash. Police responded to reports from local residents about a tiger wandering the streets, and the animal was found in a resident's backyard. The owners cornered the tiger and returned him to a cage.

May 25, 2009/Lisbon, Ohio: A 10-year-old girl was attacked by a "pet" cougar while visiting the home of Chris Joseph, a family friend who owned several African lions and cougars. A young male cougar grabbed and released the child's arm at least three times when she put her hand and arm into a cage containing two of these large predators. In order to release the girl from the cat's jaws, the friend had to remove a fan that was in front of an opening and crawl into the cage with the animals. The girl was rushed to a local hospital and then airlifted to Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh. A USDA inspector cited owner Matt Joseph for two direct noncompliances in relation to this incident and warned that because the gate to the barrier fence, which is also the perimeter fence, was unlocked, "[a]nyone could access these animals when the owners are not at home."

May 24, 2009/Great Bend, Kansas: A 150-pound cougar escaped from an enclosure at the Great Bend Zoo when a zookeeper left a door open. Zoo visitors were evacuated and the cougar was shot and killed by police because the animal became aggressive and tranquilizer darts were not readily available.

May 24, 2009/Memphis, Tennessee: A zookeeper at the Memphis Zoo was bitten by an adult tiger who escaped into a corridor through unlocked doors. The keeper was taken to a hospital for a bite to his leg. The tiger was sedated and returned to a cage.

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May 2, 2009/Osceola County, Florida: A pregnant cougar owned by Jungle Adventure Park escaped and ran into nearby woods when she was being moved from one cage to another. Officials from the fish and wildlife commission and the Osceola County Sheriff's Office searched unsuccessfully for the cougar.

April 24, 2009/Calhan, Colorado: A tiger bit a volunteer on the arm while the man was cleaning cages at Serenity Springs Wildlife Center. The volunteer was taken by ambulance to a hospital.

April 17, 2009/Jacksonville, Florida: A jaguar at the Jacksonville Zoo escaped from an enclosure through a hole in the fence. The hole may have been made by a groundskeeper. The jaguar was captured in a net and returned to the enclosure.

February 21, 2009/Oakley, Kansas: One of three lions in the private menagerie of Jeffrey Harsh attacked a man who put his arm into the cage. Harsh reportedly beat the lion with a steel pipe so that she would release the man. The victim sustained deep lacerations to both arms and was taken to a hospital in Denver for surgery.

February 11, 2009/Omaha, Nebraska: A veterinarian at the Henry Doorly Zoo was bitten by a tiger while performing a routine medical examination of the animal. The 200-pound anesthetized tiger bit the veterinarian's right forearm three times, and the veterinarian was taken to the hospital in serious condition.

February 2, 2009/Troy, Alabama: A child was clawed by a leopard at the McClelland Critters zoo when the owner of the facility took visitors behind the barrier that separates the animals from the public.

January 18, 2009/Thurmont, Maryland: An animal care worker at Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo was attacked by one or possibly two jaguars after she failed to secure the area where they were enclosed before working in an adjacent area. Both jaguars entered the area, and the nearly 200-pound male jaguar and possibly also the female jaguar attacked the woman. A fire extinguisher was sprayed at the male jaguar to fend him off. Emergency medical technicians responded to the incident, and the victim was taken to the Maryland Shock Trauma Center. She spent 10 days in the hospital for injuries to her face and upper body. Both jaguars were placed in quarantine for one month.

January 18, 2009/Ingram, Texas: A 330-pound "pet" tiger owned by Anke Leitner escaped from an enclosure and was discovered in the residential backyard of a 79-year-old woman. The tiger was shot with a tranquilizer dart and recaptured.

January 8, 2009/Salem, Oregon: During a USDA inspection, exhibitor James Wise was demonstrating to the inspector how he gave an adult male tiger a pill. When Wise turned around, the tiger lunged at him, bit his forearm, and pushed him into a fence. Wise hit the tiger on the face until he released his grip long enough for Wise to escape the enclosure.

December 12, 2008/Las Vegas, Nevada: Numerous visitors looked on as a lion attacked and bit a trainer on the leg during a feeding at the MGM Grand lion habitat. Another trainer intervened by hitting the lion on the nose. The victim sustained injuries requiring stitches.

December 9, 2008/Albion, Indiana: A 350- to 400-pound Bengal tiger escaped from an enclosure at the Black Pine Animal Park when a keeper accidentally left a door open. The tiger was seen running on a local firefighter's farm. Park employees, sheriff's deputies, firefighters, conservation officers, and local and state police were called in, and thermal imaging equipment was used to aid in the search, which lasted nearly seven hours. Two tranquilizer darts had no effect on the tiger, who eventually returned to the park on her own and was coaxed into a cage.

November 29, 2008/Jacksonville, Florida: Two bobcats at the Jacksonville Zoo escaped from an enclosure and into the zookeepers' work area when a keeper left the enclosure door open. One of the bobcats was able to escape onto zoo grounds through another door that had been left open to the outside. The zoo was placed on lockdown and visitors were required to stay inside shops and restaurants. After nearly an hour, the bobcat was tranquilized and recaptured.

November 29, 2008/Pocahontas County, West Virginia: A 250- to 300-pound "pet" Bengal tiger escaped from an exotic animal farm owned by David Cassell after squeezing through a hole in chain-link cage fencing. When

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employees at a local ski resort saw the animal's footprints, county and state officials were notified. The tiger was tracked into the Monongahela National Forest, where Cassell ultimately shot and killed her.

November 16, 2008/Luray, Virginia: A 16-year-old employee at the Luray Zoo was attacked by an adult tiger as she attempted to pet the animal while giving a tour to a group of visitors. The tiger reportedly pulled the girl's arm into the cage, causing severe injuries to her left hand and arm. The girl's finger had to be amputated.

November 15, 2008/Dade County, Florida: A 16-year-old girl was mauled by a 150-pound cougar at the private menagerie of Alan Rigerman. The animal pinned the girl to the ground and clenched his jaws around her head. A neighbor freed the girl by punching and kicking at the cougar. The victim underwent extensive surgery to repair a large gash in the back of her neck.

October 30, 2008/Atlanta, Georgia: One of two 1-year-old cheetahs who were being transported in the cargo hold of a plane from Wildlife Safari Park in Winston, Oregon, to the Memphis Zoo in Tennessee escaped from a travel crate. An airline baggage worker in Atlanta opened the plane's cargo door and found the cheetah running loose amid the luggage. The plane was moved into a closed airport hangar, and both cheetahs were tranquilized and taken to the Atlanta zoo for a few days before continuing their trip to Memphis.

October 29, 2008/Broken Arrow, Oklahoma: A volunteer was attacked by a 1,000-pound liger (a cross between a lion and a tiger) while feeding the animal at Safari's Wildlife Sanctuary. The man suffered puncture wounds to his neck and upper back as well as trauma to his vertebrae. He was flown by medical helicopter to a hospital and died the next day from his injuries. A group of 40 elementary school children was walking by the cage when the incident occurred.

September 18, 2008/Mentone, Alabama: A cougar escaped from a cage at Lookout Mountain Wild Animal Park and attacked a black leopard's foot through the fence of an enclosure. The cougar was shot and killed in order to get him to release his hold on the leopard's paw.

August 19, 2008/Washoe County, Nevada: Two black leopards were found on the roof of a private home after they apparently jumped a 12-foot fence while the owners were out of town. Authorities tranquilized both leopards, and they were taken to the local animal shelter.

August 19, 2008/West Palm Beach, Florida: An adult lion and an adult tiger escaped from a cage overnight at McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary. Three schools in the area were on lockdown while officers from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office searched for the animals, who were both located the next day, tranquilized, and returned to cages.

August 5, 2008/Richmond, Illinois: During a rehearsal for a circus performance, a tiger at the Hawthorn Corporation circus training facility attacked a man, knocking him to the ground, face down, and grabbing him by the neck. The man sustained deep puncture wounds and several scratches to his upper body, neck, and knee. Others present during the attack hit the animal with wooden poles in order to get him to release the victim. Paramedics transported the man to the hospital, where he stayed for five or six days. It was the second time the man had been attacked by a tiger at the facility.

August 4, 2008/Branson, Missouri: A 16-year-old worker at Predator World was left a quadriplegic after he was attacked by three tigers when he went into the enclosure to photograph the animals for a visitor. One of the tigers jumped on the victim and knocked him to the ground before the two other animals joined the attack and dragged him to a water pool. Staff members used a fire extinguisher to deter the cats and pulled the teen from the cage. He was airlifted to the hospital and listed in critical condition with severe trauma to his neck and airway as well as a serious laceration on his leg.

August 3, 2008/Warren County, Missouri: A volunteer at the Wesa-A-Geh-Ya exotic animal farm was attacked by an 800-pound tiger while cleaning cages. The man was standing on top of a cage when a tiger scaled the 12- to 14-foot chain-link fence and grabbed him. The victim's leg had much of the skin stripped off down to the bare bone, and he was flown by air ambulance to the hospital, where he underwent two surgeries to amputate his lower leg. The facility owners, who initially tried to cover up the incident by claiming that the victim had been attacked by a pit bull, shot and wounded the tiger during the attack and then later shot and killed him.

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July 14, 2008/El Paso County, Colorado: El Paso County Sheriff's deputies searched for an African lion who was spotted running loose by two witnesses, one of whom saw the lion chase several dogs through a field. Photographs confirmed that the animal was indeed an African lion, and the Sheriff's Office concluded that the animal was likely an escaped "pet."

May 24, 2008/South Bend, Indiana: A keeper at the Potawatomi Zoo was attacked by a leopard while cleaning an off-exhibit holding area. She was taken to a hospital by ambulance to be treated for her injuries.

May 24, 2008/Detroit, Michigan: A keeper at the Detroit Zoo was attacked by a lion while transferring the animals inside for the evening. He fended the animal off with pepper spray and was treated at a nearby hospital, where he received stitches for his injuries.

May 19, 2008/Neosho, Missouri: A black leopard approached a woman hanging laundry in her yard and then clawed at the door to her home when she retreated inside. The cat then charged a sheriff's deputy who arrived on the scene, ran past him, and turned around and charged again before being killed by several shots from the deputy's rifle and Glock handgun. Authorities speculated that the cat was a "pet" who had escaped or been abandoned.

May 5, 2008/Miami, Florida: Mark McCarthy, owner of McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary, was bitten by an adult tiger during a photo shoot for a music video. The tiger began to choke and panicked when a chain tightened around her neck and body. McCarthy sustained bone-deep puncture wounds to his calf while attempting to free the chain, which ultimately had to be cut to be removed. He was treated by paramedics at the scene.

May 11, 2008/Toledo, Ohio: A keeper at the Toledo Zoo sustained three lacerations to his chest after a 5-year-old tiger reached through a double mesh barrier and clawed him. He was treated at a nearby hospital.

March 29, 2008/Wellington, Florida: The owner of Panther Ridge Conservation Center was attacked by two cheetahs while conducting an exhibition inside the cage during a fundraising event. She was pinned down by the cheetahs, who then bit and clawed at her for 10 minutes before she could be removed from the cage and airlifted to a hospital. She sustained 40 puncture wounds to her back, arms, and legs.

March 24, 2008/Las Vegas, Nevada: A panther likely kept as a "pet" attacked a dog in the back yard of a home in a residential area. Police attempted to shoot the panther, but the animal escaped.

February 21, 2008/Honolulu, Hawaii: A 245-pound tiger escaped from an enclosure at the Honolulu Zoo when a zookeeper failed to secure two gates in the exhibit. During the 20 to 25 minutes that he was on the loose, the tiger walked past a volunteer and into an open area of the zoo, where nothing but a 4-foot fence separated him from the wider public areas of the zoo, including a playground.

February 10, 2008/West Palm Beach, Florida: A Palm Beach Zoo employee was bitten by a tiger during a training session. The worker was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

February 9, 2008/Davenport, Florida: A volunteer was clawed by a tiger while cleaning a cage at Horseshoe Creek Wildlife Foundation. The woman suffered minor injuries when the tiger swiped at her leg.

January 20, 2008/Cedar Creek, Texas: A volunteer at the Capital of Texas Zoo was bitten by a cougar when she reached into the pen to pet the animal. The cougar gripped her arm and the girl sustained a broken thumb and bites that required stitches. She was the second person to be bitten by this animal (see 2007/Cedar Creek, Texas).

January 10, 2008/San Francisco, California: A 90-pound snow leopard at the San Francisco Zoo nearly escaped after he chewed or tore through a steel mesh wall that separated the feeding cage from a zookeeper service area. The animal created a hole large enough to get his leg and head through.

December 27, 2007/Manitowoc, Wisconsin: Two cougars escaped from the Lincoln Park Zoo when the fencing of the cage was cut by vandals. The animals were on the loose for approximately two hours before being located, tranquilized, and returned to the cage.

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December 25, 2007/San Francisco, California: A 300-pound tiger escaped from an enclosure at the San Francisco Zoo, which was surrounded by a moat 20 feet wide and a 12½-foot-high wall. She attacked three visitors, quickly killing a teenager and following the other two male victims—a teenager and an adult—for 300 yards before mauling them. The two survivors sustained deep bites and claw cuts on their heads, necks, arms, and hands, and both underwent surgery for their wounds. The tiger was shot and killed by police. This was the same tiger who ripped the flesh off a zookeeper's arm approximately one year ago (see December 22, 2006/San Francisco, California).

December 3, 2007/Acton, California: A 4-year-old male tiger mauled a caretaker who was cleaning an enclosure at the Shambala Preserve. The man sustained multiple bite wounds and was airlifted to a hospital, where he was listed in critical condition.

November 19, 2007/Pike County, Ohio: A 550-pound “pet” lion belonging to Terry Brumfield escaped from a cage and onto a nearby highway, where he chased and attacked passing cars. The State Highway Patrol and the Pike County Sheriff's Department responded to the call. Brumfield ultimately lured the lion back to the cage.

November 19, 2007/Saint Louis, Missouri: A portion of the Saint Louis Zoo was evacuated when a 1-year-old cheetah scaled a wall at least 10 feet high and got into an area intended to separate animals from people and was loose for nearly half an hour. The incident marked the third time since 2000 that a cheetah has escaped at this zoo.

November 14, 2007/New Hampton, Iowa: A “pet” tiger escaped from a cage by rushing past the owner at feeding time and attacked and mauled the family's dog. When the dog ran toward cars from the local sheriff's department and the tiger followed, a deputy sheriff shot and killed the tiger through a partially opened window of his vehicle.

October 1, 2007/Pahrump, Nevada: A cougar escaped from a holding pen at Running Wild animal compound and attacked a volunteer who entered the enclosure with a bucket of meat. The woman was knocked to the ground by the cougar and bitten on the neck, back, hands, and arms. The cougar stopped the attack when emergency sirens approached the facility.

July 14, 2007/San Antonio, Texas: A keeper who forgot to close a gate was attacked by a 250-pound tiger at the San Antonio Zoo. The tiger knocked the man down, dragged him, and bit him on the head several times before the keeper managed to escape by spraying the animal with pepper spray. The keeper was airlifted to the hospital with serious injuries to his head, neck, and arm.

July 6, 2007/Marion County, Arkansas: A man was injured by one of his 5½-year-old “pet” cougars as he was cleaning the cage. The male cougar knocked the man to the ground and bit him on the back of the neck, head, and leg. He was taken to the hospital and treated for his injuries.

February 24, 2007/Denver, Colorado: A keeper at the Denver Zoo was attacked and bitten on the neck by a 140-pound jaguar in a service hallway adjacent to the enclosure for the animals. The woman suffered extensive internal injuries and died at the hospital of a broken neck. The jaguar was shot and killed during the incident.

January 21, 2007/San Angelo, Texas: A woman sought hospital treatment after she was bitten by a 10-week-old African lion cub exhibited by G.W. Exotic Animal Foundation at a mall where patrons were allowed to pet and interact with the lion.

January 5, 2007/Center Point, Indiana: An 80-pound cougar scaled a 14-foot fence and escaped from an enclosure at the Exotic Feline Rescue Center. More than two months later, she was still on the loose.

2007/Cedar Creek, Texas: A volunteer at the Capital of Texas Zoo was bitten by a cougar when she reached into the pen to pet the animal.

December 22, 2006/San Francisco, California: A keeper at the San Francisco Zoo was attacked by a 350-pound tiger who reached through the bars of the cage and grabbed the woman. The keeper sustained deep lacerations to her arms, which required surgery and may have resulted in the loss of one arm. A zoogoer who witnessed the attack described what she saw: “The right arm was in the tiger's mouth The left arm was just being held there (in the

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claws) and the right arm was being eaten. She was screaming and flailing away." The tiger released the woman when other zookeepers jabbed the tiger in the head with a pole.

December 22, 2006/Washington, D.C.: A clouded leopard at the National Zoo escaped a cage through a hole in the fence and ventured onto zoo grounds. Visitors were evacuated while zoo employees surrounded the cat with nets and tranquilizer guns, sedated her, and returned her to the cage.

November 24, 2006/Evansville, Indiana: Animal trainer Wade Burck was clawed by a tiger during a performance of the Hadi Shrine Circus. Burck received hospital treatment, including stitches, for wounds to his left forearm and leg.

November 18, 2006/Coral Gables, Florida: A 4-year-old girl was mauled by a 62-pound cougar at a children's birthday party. The cat took the child's head into her mouth, inflicting severe cuts to the girl's eyelid, cheek, and ear, and requiring surgical reattachment of part of her severed ear. The cougar had been provided by Wild Animal World and was killed to be tested for rabies. The proprietor of Wild Animal World had been cited at least twice previously for similar attacks.

November 14, 2006/Gulf Breeze, Florida: Two 150-pound cougars escaped through a hole in the fence of the pen and were loose for nearly three hours at The Zoo. The facility was closed and visitors were moved to secured areas while a search, aided by a sheriff's office helicopter using infrared cameras, was conducted for the cougars. Both were ultimately tranquilized and returned to the cage.

November 13, 2006/Gulf Breeze, Florida: A keeper at The Zoo was bitten by a leopard and sustained wounds on her hand.

October 16, 2006/Copley Township, Ohio: A veterinarian with the U.S. Department of Agriculture was attacked by a tiger during an inspection at the L&L Exotic Animal Farm. The tiger reached outside the cage, grabbed the woman's arm, pulled her toward the cage, and got her arm into her mouth. She was treated at the hospital for scratches and bruising.

October 16, 2006/Fleetwood, North Carolina: A woman who attempted to pet a leopard at the New River Zoo was bitten on the arm and wrist, sustaining injuries that required surgery. The woman alleged that the owner of the zoo had encouraged her to pet the animal. The leopard was euthanized.

October 6, 2006/Hesperia, California: A 500-pound tiger escaped from a cage at the Cinema Safari Zoo when zoo workers failed to lock the cage during cleaning. Because the zoo did not have the proper equipment on hand to tranquilize a tiger, the animal was on the loose for hours, during which time he attacked a donkey, biting the animal's neck and a leg. When the proper equipment was obtained, the tiger was tranquilized and returned to the cage.

September 12, 2006/Balm, Florida: Lancelot Kollmann, owner of an animal business called Sir Lance A Lot, was attacked by a 250-pound tiger while cleaning a cage. His lower lip was split in two, requiring 25 stitches, and the side of one arm, which was sliced down to the bone, required five stitches and a drainage shunt.

August 22, 2006/Tampa, Florida: Enshala, a 180-pound Sumatran tiger at the Lowry Park Zoo, escaped an enclosure 15 minutes before closing time and was loose for 50 minutes when an unlocked latch allowed her access to an empty exhibit that was under renovation. Zoo visitors were moved to safety in the zoo's restaurants or sent home as a 10-person weapons team assembled. Enshala became agitated when she was shot with a tranquilizer dart, causing her to lurch at a zoo veterinarian as well as a 7-foot wall separating her from public areas. She was ultimately killed by zoo president Lex Salisbury, who shot her four times with a 12-gauge shotgun.

July 18, 2006/Ballston Spa, New York: A 4-year-old boy was clawed by an adult tiger displayed by the Ashville Game Farm and Exotic Zoo at the Saratoga County Fair. The child was sitting next to a cage while having his photo taken with a baby kangaroo when the tiger reached out and clawed him. The boy was treated at the hospital and received 14 stitches for a 1-inch gash on his head.

June 16, 2006/Kaufman County, Texas: A part-time employee at Zoo Dynamics, an animal facility owned by Marcus Cook, was chased and mauled by a 300-pound tiger who climbed out of an uncovered enclosure. The tiger

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grabbed the man and threw him down, ripped off his ear, and left severe claw marks all over his body. The man spent the weekend in intensive care and received some 2,000 stitches. The employee in charge took the victim to the hospital without notifying local authorities that a tiger was still loose on the premises and recaptured the animal upon his return.

May 2006/Kingman, Arizona: A woman was attacked by two tigers at Jonathan Kraft's Keepers of the Wild animal sanctuary and required surgery for her injuries.

April 6, 2006/Pine County, Minnesota: Cynthia Gamble, owner of Center for Endangered Cats, was killed by an adult male tiger when she entered the cage. She died of crushing injuries to her throat and blood loss. The 400-pound tiger bit off her right foot and portions of both arms.

February 24, 2006/San Antonio, Texas: A cheetah at the San Antonio Zoo escaped from an enclosure by climbing over an approximately 10-foot-high fence into a tree and then jumping to the ground. She was loose for 20 minutes before being tranquilized and returned to the cage.

February 15, 2006/Birmingham, Alabama: An employee at the Birmingham Zoo was attacked by an adult lion while feeding the animals and moving them to the outdoor exhibit. The woman was taken to the hospital with bites on her scalp, right arm, and abdomen.

January 30, 2006/Fort Wayne, Indiana: A tiger escaped an enclosure at the Fort Wayne Zoological Society when a keeper failed to close a gate separating the enclosure from an aisle where the keeper was working. The keeper escaped to an unoccupied area and the tiger was tranquilized and returned to the enclosure.

January 10, 2006/Center Hill, Florida: A cougar slipped through an unsecured door and escaped from an enclosure at the Savage Kingdom breeding facility. As the cougar headed for an open field, an employee attempted to lasso him and was bitten on the lower leg. Other employees got ropes around the cougar's neck and the animal strangled to death as he struggled to resist the ropes.

November 16, 2005/Greenwich, New York: An adult tiger escaped from the Ashville Game Farm and Exotic Zoo by pushing through a section of fence across the top of a cage and jumping out. She was on the loose for approximately five hours before being found in a resident's yard several miles from the zoo, tranquilized, and returned to the cage.

October 6, 2005/Duluth, Minnesota: Two zookeepers were bitten by a tiger at the Lake Superior Zoo while they were moving the animal back to a cage following surgery. The anesthetized tiger bit down on one employee's arm, holding the bite for approximately 30 seconds and causing puncture wounds that required the man to be hospitalized. A second zookeeper sustained cuts to his hands and fingers as he helped other employees who used a broomstick and their hands to pry the tiger's mouth open.

September 28, 2005/Lewis County, Washington: A 5-year-old boy was tackled by one of his grandfather's "pet" tigers. The tiger scratched the boy's leg and gave him a puncture wound on his foot.

August 18, 2005/Mound Valley, Kansas: A 17-year-old girl was killed by a 300-pound tiger while having her picture taken with the animal at the Lost Creek Animal Sanctuary. During the photo session, the tiger, who was being held on a chain, lunged at the girl. The handler was unable to restrain the animal, and the tiger clamped his jaws on the girl's neck. She was severely bitten and her neck was broken. The tiger was killed.

July 8, 2005/Peoria, Illinois: A Frisco Bros. Petting Zoo employee was injured when a 2-year-old tiger grabbed his hand with her front claws as he was removing a feeding tray from an enclosure. The man was taken to the emergency room, and the tiger was quarantined by animal control for 30 days.

July 2005/McHenry County, Illinois: Craig Perry, of Perry's Wilderness Ranch and Zoo, was mauled by a tiger at the Hawthorn Corporation's circus-training facility. One of 14 tigers circled Perry during a photo shoot and then attacked his left leg. Perry required immediate surgery and suffered nerve damage.

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June 22, 2005/Little Falls, Minnesota: A 10-year-old boy was attacked by a lion and a tiger while visiting a private collection of “pet” exotic cats kept at an auto dealership owned by Chuck Mock. When Mock opened a cage to go inside, a tiger pushed through the door and attacked the boy. As Mock pulled the tiger off, a lion came out and bit the boy, dragging him 24 to 30 feet. The boy sustained numerous facial fractures and his spinal cord was severed, leaving him a quadriplegic. The lion and tiger were killed.

June 11, 2005/Lima, Ohio: Bradley Craft was attacked by his “pet” cougar. Craft grabbed the cougar’s tail to prevent the cat from attacking his mother and the cat turned on him, biting him in the leg.

June 11, 2005/Underwood, Minnesota: A full grown African lion escaped from a cage at the Arcangel Wildlife Farm and wandered through neighbors’ yards for approximately two hours before being shot and killed by a sheriff’s deputy.

May 15, 2005/Kennewick, Washington: A 110-pound cougar, likely an escaped “pet,” was found in the garage of an auto repair shop by a guard after the animal set off a burglar alarm several times. The owner of the shop believed the cougar had been inside during work hours. The animal was removed after being shot with a tranquilizer gun by a Fish and Wildlife Officer.

March 6, 2005/Underwood, Minnesota: A 16-year-old girl was petting a tiger through the bars of a cage at the Arcangel Wildlife Farm when the tiger bit her finger and clawed her hand. The wound required a dozen stitches and three operations to treat an acute infection. The girl also underwent rabies shots.

February 26, 2005/Wellington, Florida: A 500-pound Bengal tiger escaped from a cage at Panther Ridge Sanctuary by pushing past a woman who was feeding him and who hadn’t latched the cage properly. More than 20 sheriff’s deputies and state wildlife officers armed with rifles were positioned inside and outside the perimeter fence of the facility as the tiger wandered the grounds for more than two hours. Two tranquilizer darts were required to sedate the tiger so that he could be recaptured.

February 23, 2005/Pahrump, Nevada: A “pet” leopard at Karl Mitchell’s facility bit off the tip of a woman’s finger.

February 23, 2005/Simi Valley, California: A tiger who had been roaming loose for at least eight days was shot and killed by authorities near a residential area.

February 12, 2005/Oldsmar, Florida: A woman was bitten on the hand by a Zoo Dynamics tiger cub used for photo ops at an automobile dealership.

February 11, 2005/Cut and Shoot, Texas: A worker at Wildlife Extravaganza was hospitalized for several days after her arm was pulled through the feeding hole by a leopard as she prepared to feed the cat.

January 26, 2005/Sioux Falls, South Dakota: A man was given rabies shots and received stitches to his finger after he was bitten by a tiger at the Great Plains Zoo as he reached through a fence into the cage.

January 20, 2005/Baraboo, Wisconsin: An 8-year-old girl was bitten on the chest by an 80-pound, 7-month-old lion cub at Creature Features Pet Store. The girl had to undergo rabies shots.

January 18, 2005/Arkansas: A 400-pound “pet” tiger was abandoned in the mountains of north central Arkansas along the Buffalo River. The tiger trekked 60 miles over the next four days, returning to his owner’s home and was then taken to a refuge.

January 8, 2005/Cleveland County, North Carolina: Two 6-month-old injured tiger cubs, weighing approximately 80 to 100 pounds each, were abandoned and found wandering on the side of a road.

December 24, 2004/Suffolk County, New York: An 8-year-old boy was attacked by his father’s “pet” leopard. The boy was scratched on the chest and bitten on the neck, and he required medical treatment.

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December 5, 2004/Laredo, Texas: A circus worker was rushed to the hospital after she was badly bitten on the hand by a caged tiger at Great Circus of China.

November 20, 2004/St. Augustine, Florida: A 350-pound tiger, displayed by The Catty Shack Ranch at the St. Johns County Fair, attacked his handler and a 14-year-old boy as he was being walked on a leash to a cage. Police used stun guns to stop the attack. The handler suffered puncture wounds to his head and the boy was knocked down and scratched.

November 20, 2004/Branson West, Missouri: An 18-year-old volunteer at Predator World spent the night in the hospital after being bitten on the arm by an 80-pound black leopard as he stood next to the cage.

November 6, 2004/Gentry, Arkansas: A visitor was taken to the hospital after a tiger pulled the flesh off her finger at the Wild Wilderness Drive Thru Safari when she placed her hand in the cage.

October 30, 2004/Salisbury, Maryland: A visitor to the Salisbury Zoo had part of his finger torn off when he approached a cage containing a jaguar.

September 9, 2004/Chicago, Illinois: A keeper at Lincoln Park Zoo was seriously injured with multiple bite wounds and lacerations after being attacked by a lion in the outdoor exhibit. The incident forced an evacuation of the zoo.

September 8, 2004/Trenton, Maine: An employee was seriously injured, with wounds to his face and arm, by a leopard at the Acadia Zoological Park.

July 31, 2004/New York, New York: A 450-pound white tiger belonging to Adriatic Animal Attractions bolted from the New Cole Bros. Circus while being transferred from one cage to another near the Forest Park bandshell in Queens. Dozens of police officers with machine guns and tranquilizer darts pursued the tiger for 30 minutes as he prowled for a mile through a park crowded with picnickers, scattering screaming people and causing two traffic accidents. He was recaptured by the trainer. Two women filed a \$60 million lawsuit after suffering spinal fractures and other injuries in the multicar pileup on the Jackie Robinson Parkway.

July 26, 2004/Shepherdsville, Kentucky: A 2-year-old, declawed "pet" snow leopard escaped from a cage, broke through a wire gate, and ran into thick woods behind the owner's house.

July 14, 2004/Little Falls, Minnesota: A 22-year-old woman was bitten by an African lion when she stuck her hand into a cage while visiting a private collection of "pet" exotic cats kept at an auto dealership owned by Chuck Mock. The woman suffered a severe laceration to her middle finger and cuts on two other fingers.

July 14, 2004/Detroit Lakes, Minnesota: A worker with the Arcangel Wildlife Farm was bitten by a tiger who was on display at a local festival. The leashed tiger lunged at the man and bit him on the arm when the man attempted to move him.

July 12, 2004/Loxahatchee, Florida: Deputy sheriffs and state game officials launched an extensive search for a 600-pound "pet" tiger who escaped from Steve Sipek's private menagerie. Residents were escorted to and from their homes while the tiger was on the loose. The tiger was shot and killed the next day when he lunged at a wildlife officer.

June 2, 2004/Landover Hills, Maryland: A tiger belonging to exhibitor Mitchel Kalmanson escaped from the UniverSoul Circus after fighting with another tiger and attacked an elephant, biting her on the hip. During the escape, there were several elementary schools attending the performance, and children were walking under the tent in the area where the tiger escaped.

May 28, 2004/Chillicothe, Ohio: A woman was hospitalized after she was bitten on the arm by her father's "pet" lion when she reached into the cage to pet him. The lion was shot and killed.

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April 16, 2004/Indio Hills, California: After a tiger used in the movie industry escaped from his compound, the California Department of Fish and Game and the Riverside County Sheriff's Department launched a search. The tiger was later captured.

March 13, 2004/Massena, New York: A 4-year-old girl was mauled by her grandmother's "pet" cougar. The 160-pound cougar apparently reached through the cage and grabbed the girl. She was hospitalized with cuts and bruises on her head and an eye injury.

March 11, 2004/Reno, Nevada: A volunteer needed more than 15 stitches after a declawed leopard at the Sierra Safari Zoo bit her as she reached into the pen for a food bowl.

February 12, 2004/Hardin County, Illinois: A 52-year-old man with a private menagerie of exotic cats and wolves bled to death after he was mauled by a declawed African lion as he changed the bedding in the cage. During the autopsy, a coroner found that the man had suffered numerous puncture wounds and a broken neck. The lion was discovered running loose on the property and was shot and killed by police.

February 9, 2004/Plaquemine, Louisiana: A woman was attacked by a declawed "pet" leopard she kept in a makeshift 10-foot by 10-foot cage behind her house trailer. The leopard bit her on the head, nearly tearing off her ear and ripping the flesh from her scalp. Sheriff deputies and one of the woman's relatives shot the leopard four times, killing him.

January 31, 2004/Fort Wayne, Indiana: A 4-year-old, 140-pound "pet" cougar escaped from a car during a traffic accident and was shot and killed by police when he lunged at an emergency worker.

January 24, 2004/Lowgap, North Carolina: A tiger attacked and bit a 14-year-old girl on the cheek and neck as she was taking photos of four caged "pet" tigers. She was hospitalized in guarded condition. All four tigers were killed on the site.

December 14, 2003/Millers Creek, North Carolina: A 10-year-old boy was killed by his uncle's 400-pound "pet" tiger as he shoveled snow near the cage. The tiger reached under the fence, dragged the boy into the cage, and inflicted at least eight puncture wounds to his head, neck, and chest. The boy's uncle shot and killed the tiger.

December 12, 2003/Marion County, Kansas: A sheriff killed a second tiger at Chris McDonald's private menagerie when the animal became aggressive following the killing of his companion (see December 9, 2003/Marion County, Kansas).

December 9, 2003/Marion County, Kansas: A tiger was shot and killed after escaping from Chris McDonald's private menagerie and killing two dogs and a wolf.

November 11, 2003/Palm Desert, California: A zoo employee and a zoo visitor at the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens were bitten by a cheetah who was being walked on a leash through the park. The zoo visitor was holding a 2-year-old child on her lap when the cheetah attacked her, biting her calf and thigh. The child was treated for a head injury after she fell onto cement.

November 8, 2003/Frisco, Texas: A 4-month-old, 50-pound declawed tiger cub was abandoned and captured by police after a motorist spotted the animal roaming on the side of the road.

November 7, 2003/Rockwell, North Carolina: Steve Macaluso, owner of a private menagerie called Charlotte Metro Zoo, was bitten on the neck by a leopard. Zoo volunteers and employees reported that Macaluso needed dozens of stitches.

October 6, 2003/Golden Valley, Arizona: An employee at Keepers of the Wild Zoo was bitten and dragged by a 450-pound tiger as she tried to pet him. She was hospitalized for five days with four puncture wounds on her leg.

October 3, 2003/Las Vegas, Nevada: While walking a tiger across the stage on a leash, Roy Horn of the Siegfried & Roy casino act was mauled and critically injured by a tiger during a show. The tiger bit Horn on the right arm, then

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lunged at him, bit him on the neck, and dragged him across the stage in front of more than 1,500 horrified tourists. Horn suffered bite wounds and massive blood loss. The 7-year-old tiger had been performing in the show since he was 6 months old.

October 3, 2003/New York, New York: Police, along with animal control officers and Bronx Zoo employees, confiscated a 500-pound “pet” tiger belonging to Antoine Yates from a Harlem apartment. Yates was later arrested at a Philadelphia hospital where he had fled for treatment of a deep bite wound to his right leg. At various times, eight children had lived in the apartment where the tiger was kept.

August 21, 2003/Whetstone Township, Ohio: A chained 180-pound “pet” cougar snapped a collar, escaped, and attacked a neighbor’s dog, causing more than 100 lacerations.

August 14, 2003/St. Louis, Missouri: A cheetah at the St. Louis Zoo escaped from an enclosure by going through a 12-foot wide moat and over a 12-foot high wall. The animal walked among visitors before being recaptured.

July 3, 2003/La Crosse, Wisconsin: A tiger mauled circus trainer Bruno Blaszak in front of 400 people during his show at a festival. The tiger charged at Blaszak, knocked him down, and clawed him. His right leg required 30 to 40 stitches.

June 30, 2003/Calhan, Colorado: Two tigers severely mauled an employee of Big Cats of Serenity Springs as he entered the cage. The employee was knocked down by one tiger and suffered a mangled leg and scalp injuries. As a result, the tigers were beaten with shovels and later killed.

June 23, 2003/Crossett, Arkansas: A firefighter visiting the Crossett Zoo suffered a deep laceration and lost part of his thumb when he was bitten by a tiger.

June 14, 2003/Dodge City, Kansas: An adult tiger who was being exhibited by G.W. Exotic Animal Foundation swiped at a young boy, tearing his pants. The tiger was being used for photo ops with the public at the Village Square Mall.

June 2003/Mead, Washington: A Korean actor filed a negligence lawsuit against Cat Tales Zoological Park, a roadside zoo and exotic animal training center, after she was mauled by a white tiger during filming of a story about two of the facility’s tigers. She suffered a cut on her forearm.

May 28, 2003/Nampa, Idaho: At a roadside zoo called For the Birds, where visitors are allowed to pet tigers, a toddler was jumped on and licked by a 170-pound tiger. Other zoo visitors and employees have been jumped on and bitten by tigers.

April 6, 2003/San Antonio, Texas: A lion from Wild Animal Orphanage escaped and roamed through a northwest area neighborhood for several hours. An employee required hospital treatment for a fractured pelvic bone and bruised rib when the lion charged and knocked her down as she attempted to shoot the animal with a tranquilizer dart. The lion was shot and killed by four police officers armed with handguns and shotguns.

April 2, 2003/Adair, Oklahoma: Several tigers belonging to the International Wildlife Center of Texas and boarded at Safari Joe’s Rock Creek Exotic Animal Park attacked and killed a handler. One tiger grabbed her arm and pulled her into the cage as she was giving them water, and other tigers in the cage pounced on her. Another worker beat the tigers with a shovel to break up the attack and to retrieve the woman’s body and her severed arm. The tigers were displayed at fairs and used in photo ops with the public.

March 31, 2003/Hennepin, Illinois: A man was mauled to death by two tigers he kept in a backyard menagerie when he attempted to move the two animals into another enclosure. Police shot and killed both tigers in order to retrieve the body. This was the second incident at the Second Nature Exotic Cats Sanctuary (see May 26, 2002/Hennepin, Illinois).

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March 23, 2003/Sacramento, California: A keeper at the Sacramento Zoo was hospitalized and treated for puncture wounds to his neck, right shoulder, and left leg after he was attacked by a 325-pound tiger while he was preparing to feed the animal. Another worker beat the tiger on the head with a shovel to stop the attack.

March 22, 2003/Red Wing, Minnesota: A 5-month-old, 40-pound tiger cub at Grant Oly's Tiger Zone grabbed and bit a pregnant woman on the wrist, causing a puncture wound, and bit a 16-year-old girl. Police searching Oly's premises found guns, ammunition, and marijuana.

February 4, 2003/Jacksonville, Florida: A 450-pound tiger, belonging to exhibitor Mitchel Kalmanson, escaped from the UniverSoul Circus while the cage was being cleaned. The tiger climbed over a car, jumped over a fence, headed down an alley, frightened employees at a nearby restaurant, and was recaptured 10 minutes later.

January 24, 2003/Albert Lea, Minnesota: A malnourished tiger cub was seized from a home in a residential neighborhood after school officials learned that scratches and bite marks on a fifth-grade boy were caused by his father's "pet" tiger.

January 8, 2003/Laurens, South Carolina: A 200-pound "pet" cougar was recaptured in a residential neighborhood after he had escaped from a pen 5 miles away and roamed freely for three days.

2003/Olmsted Falls, Ohio: A tiger at Burnette's Pet Farm bit a worker in the jugular vein. Cuyahoga County Board of Health deputy director Dave Covell said, "We didn't even know they had a tiger."

December 15, 2002/Leesburg, Virginia: Animal control was called to help recapture an 80-pound tiger who escaped from a petting zoo and was on top of a car in a parking lot.

December 2002/Malibu Hills, California: Television star Elisha Cuthbert was treated at a hospital for deep puncture wounds to the hand after she was bitten by a cougar while shooting a scene for the TV show 24.

November 14, 2002/Detroit, Michigan: A tiger who had been beaten to death and dumped in a field was found by local residents.

November 4, 2002/Red Wing, Minnesota: A teenager reported to authorities that tigers at Grant Oly's Tiger Zone had bitten him and two adults.

October 28, 2002/Las Vegas, Nevada: Neighbors became frightened and alerted animal control when they spotted two tiger cubs running loose on a neighbor's rooftop. The cubs had escaped from the homeowner's private menagerie.

October 17, 2002/Southport, Florida: A 500-pound African lion pounced on, dragged, and mauled his owner at a roadside zoo called 77 Zoological Park as the owner stepped into the cage to pose for a picture. The lion ripped a hole in his throat, pulled his right eye out of its socket, severed tendons in his neck and chest, tore his skin, and bit through his flesh to the bone. The man spent weeks in the hospital and was in critical condition for 11 days.

October 11, 2002/Jackson, New Jersey: The 70-year-old husband of "tiger lady" Joan Byron-Marasek was suddenly attacked by a tiger at her controversial preserve as he was feeding the tigers. He suffered head injuries, and his arm was nearly severed.

October 4, 2002/Leona, Texas: A man was severely mauled by a 400-pound tiger at the Perrydise Exotic Animal Ranch when he stuck his arm in the feeding opening of the cage to touch the animal, resulting in amputation of his arm just above the elbow.

September 28, 2002/Bloomington, Illinois: A 400-pound tiger was shot and killed by police after he escaped from a trailer at a truck stop and hid in bushes near a residential area for nine hours. Local police spent \$9,000 attempting to recapture the tiger. This same tiger mauled a 7-year-old girl earlier in the year (see May 26, 2002/Hennepin, Illinois).

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September 22, 2002/Quitman, Arkansas: Four African lions, believed to have escaped from a nearby exotic animal farm, were shot and killed after running loose for several days, terrifying residents.

September 20, 2002/Scotts Valley, California: A declawed 150-pound tiger, who was being walked on a leash by Zoo to You at a school assembly with 150 children at the Baymonte Christian School, suddenly lunged at a 6-year-old boy and grabbed the child by the head with her jaws. The boy was wrestled away from the tiger by the principal and airlifted to a medical center where he received 55 stitches for two cuts to his scalp. A psychologist gave counseling to the terrified children who witnessed the attack.

July 25, 2002/Tacoma, Washington: A 4-year-old male clouded leopard jumped on and scratched both arms of a handler at the Point Defiance Zoo during a behind-the-scenes tour at the zoo. A small group of children was nearby. The woman had to call for help to get the 43-pound cat under control and her wounds were treated at a hospital. The same animal had scratched another handler's leg 18 days previously (see July 7, 2002/Tacoma, Washington).

July 7, 2002/Tacoma, Washington: A clouded leopard scratched the legs of a handler at the Point Defiance Zoo.

July 2002/Nampa, Idaho: A tiger being used in an exhibition injured a 12-year-old child's finger at For the Birds.

June 17, 2002/Red Wing, Minnesota: A tiger at Grant Oly's Tiger Zone bit a teenager on the arm, causing a puncture wound that required stitches.

May 26, 2002/Hennepin, Illinois: A 7-year-old girl was bitten by a tiger at a private menagerie as she attempted to pet the animal. The girl required 110 stitches and three months of therapy.

May 12, 2002/Tampa, Florida: A 350-pound African lion at Busch Gardens ripped off the arm of a zookeeper who was standing next to the cage while giving a private tour to her family. The attack occurred shortly after the zookeeper had fed the lion pieces of meat during training exercises. The zookeeper filed a lawsuit seeking in excess of \$15,000 in damages.

April 28, 2002/Pickens County, South Carolina: According to the Post & Courier, a "pet" tiger was quarantined for biting an 8-year-old boy in the leg after the tiger had been given a bath. The tiger was normally kept in a metal cage in the backyard.

March 10, 2002/Red Wing, Minnesota: A tiger at Grant Oly's Tiger Zone bit off a portion of a 14-year-old boy's finger.

March 9, 2002/Wynnewood, Oklahoma: A cougar suddenly bit Joe Schreibvogel, director of the G.W. Exotic Animal Park, during feeding. The cougar reached out from the cage, grabbed Schreibvogel's sleeve, and began gnawing on his hand, nearly severing his thumb and finger. The man received stitches on his wrist, thumb, palm, and across the entire base of his index finger.

March 2, 2002/Strafford, Missouri: Two adult lions escaped from a cage at Exotic Animal Paradise after an employee failed to secure the enclosure. One of the lions was shot with three tranquilizer darts, failed to recover from the sedation, and subsequently died.

February 15, 2002/Pahrump, Nevada: Animal exhibitor Karl Mitchell shot and killed one of his tigers after the animal became frightened and escaped his control while being moved to a new residence.

February 3, 2002/Loxahatchee, Florida: A woman was hospitalized in critical condition with a skull fracture after she was attacked and bitten by a 750-pound declawed tiger. The woman had been painting in preparation for a photo shoot at Steve Sipek's private animal compound.

February 1, 2002/Tampa, Florida: A leashed tiger lurched toward a young boy during a Busch Gardens "animal encounter" during which animals are taken into the park to interact with the public.

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January 24, 2002/Gentry, Arkansas: Two animal handlers at Wild Wilderness Drive Thru Safari were attacked while transferring cougars between cages. One handler received multiple bites on an arm and leg, and the other was bitten in the face.

December 29, 2001/Leona, Texas: A 6-year-old boy was taken to the emergency room after being attacked by a tiger at the Perrydise Exotic Animal Ranch. The child sustained severe lacerations to his face and hand when a tiger reached through the cage and clawed him as he was photographing the animal.

November 2, 2001/Pahrump, Nevada: A man was severely injured by a tiger while visiting a private residence. The man was bitten on the arm when he was allowed to feed the animals and required more than \$160,000 in medical care, including reconstructive surgery. A lawsuit was filed against tiger owner Annette Grabowski and her companion, Paul Mason, for negligence and against Nye County for failure to take action despite a previous biting incident.

October 10, 2001/Lee County, Texas: A 3-year-old boy was killed by one of three of a relative's "pet" tigers as he was about to have his picture taken with the animals. The 250-pound tiger snatched the boy from the arms of an adult, clamped down on his leg, and dragged him around the enclosure, causing head injuries. The tiger was beaten on the head until he released the boy's foot.

July 31, 2001/Center Hill, Florida: A 500-pound tiger mauled and killed a man making cage repairs at a roadside zoo called Savage Kingdom. The man had suffered a fatal bite to his neck and severe injuries to his head, arm, and ribs. The tiger was later shot and killed by zoo workers.

July 27, 2001/Racine, Minnesota: A 2-year-old, 400-pound white Siberian tiger was euthanized for rabies tests after he bit a 7-year-old girl. The tiger had escaped from a cage at a roadside zoo called B.E.A.R.C.A.T. Hollow and attacked the girl, inflicting two puncture wounds that became infected. The tiger was stuffed and mounted.

June 25, 2001/Nashville, Tennessee: The Nashville Zoo was evacuated after officials found a cheetah wandering outside of a pen. The cheetah was shot with a tranquilizer dart and recaptured.

April 29, 2001/Oskaloosa, Kansas: A Jefferson County sheriff's lieutenant shot and killed an escaped tiger as the tiger crouched in an attack position. The 600-pound tiger ran loose for an hour after fleeing while being unloaded at a traveling zoo called, "Gatekeepers Wildlife Sanctuary." The animal had twice tried to attack a veterinarian when he was shot with a tranquilizer dart.

April 27, 2001/Oakwood, Ohio: The sheriff's office warned residents to keep their children and companion animals indoors after receiving a report that an escaped lion had been sighted.

April 7, 2001/Van Buren County, Arkansas: Three tigers escaped from cages while being moved by court order from a Faulkner County subdivision, where they had been kept in violation of a local ordinance. The tigers were found three hours later, and one died after being tranquilized. After the escape, the sheriff of Van Buren County stated that he did not want the tigers in his county either.

April 2001/Omaha, Nebraska: Animal handler Bryan Franzen required stitches after he was clawed by a tiger during a performance at the Tangier Shrine Circus.

March 27, 2001/Morgan County, Missouri: An African lion at Ozark Nature Center escaped from a cage while animals were being loaded for transport. Terrified residents spent the next four days escorting children and keeping companion animals indoors while dozens of police officers and conservation agents searched for the animal. The lion was found napping near a road and recaptured.

March 25, 2001/Las Vegas, Nevada: A tiger with Safari Wildlife attacked and killed a handler. The tiger put his paw on the man's back, pushed him down, and bit his throat. The handler died within minutes from loss of blood. The tiger was used for photo ops with the public and had also appeared in numerous motion pictures and advertisements. He was being groomed for a promotional advertisement when the attack occurred. Another handler was hospitalized with injuries to his knees and puncture wounds.

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March 20, 2001/Olmsted Falls, Ohio: A worker spreading gravel in a tiger enclosure at Burnette Farm was mauled and critically injured by a 500-pound tiger. The worker underwent surgery for bite wounds to his neck.

March 16, 2001/Witts Springs, Arkansas: A tiger escaped from a backyard menagerie by gnawing her way through the heavy steel enclosure. The tiger was loose for three days, terrorizing residents and biting a dog, who was subsequently treated for three large fang marks on each side of his neck. The tiger continued to elude capture after she was shot in the shoulder by an area resident. She was tranquilized and recaptured after she was located in a thickly wooded area by a police helicopter.

January 26, 2001/Las Vegas, Nevada: A “pet” cougar escaped from a pen and hopped aboard a school bus. No children were on board at the time. The driver fled from the bus, and animal control workers captured the animal.

December 20, 2000/Omaha, Nebraska: A 6-month-old cougar cub pounced on the landlord of a rental home that he was checking on after the tenant was arrested for armed robbery.

October 21, 2000/Gambier, Ohio: A 10-year-old boy was knocked to the ground and bitten on the leg by a tiger at the Siberian Tiger Foundation while participating in a “close encounter” at the facility. This was the tenth incident in seven months of people being bitten or otherwise injured by tigers at the facility.

September 10, 2000/Albuquerque, New Mexico: A tiger cub bit a man during a photo op at the New Mexico State Fair.

August 26, 2000/Sioux Falls, South Dakota: A 14-year-old boy was hospitalized after being mauled by a tiger on his father’s farm. The teenager was hospitalized for more than a month with bite wounds to the leg, neck, and shoulder.

August 16, 2000/Sapulpa, Oklahoma: One of two 11-month-old tigers broke loose and frightened nearby children while they were being moved between cages at Safari Joe’s.

August 12, 2000/Boise, Idaho: A woman was mauled by a tiger at a fundraiser for Zoo Boise after the cat escaped from an unlocked cage. She was hospitalized in serious condition with a broken leg, puncture wounds, and a gunshot wound that she received when police fired their guns to scare the tiger away.

July 12, 2000/Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin: An employee at the Irvine Park Zoo in Wisconsin was bitten by a cougar after she tried to pet him. She was hospitalized for three days.

June 7, 2000/Bloomington, Illinois: A man was treated for a 3-inch cut and puncture wounds to his hand, inflicted by a snow leopard after he tried to pet the animal at the Miller Park Zoo. A similar incident occurred at the same zoo in September 1995 when a man suffered a 3 1/2-inch gash to his hand when he attempted to pet a leopard.

May 21, 2000/Kiowa, Colorado: A tiger ripped off the arm of a volunteer at a zoo in Colorado.

May 17, 2000/Massachusetts: A 14-year-old girl was attacked by a tiger at a roadside zoo in Massachusetts. The girl, a part-time employee at the zoo, was feeding the cat when he bit her leg and shook her before releasing her.

March 15, 2000/Channelview, Texas: A 3-year-old boy had his arm bitten off by his uncle’s “pet” tiger.

February 23, 2000/Great Bend, Kansas: A high school student was bitten on the hand and arm by a cougar after sticking her arm into a cage at the Brit Spaugh Zoo.

2000/Jacksonville, Florida: An elderly woman was bitten on the arm by a tiger cub belonging to the Catty Shack Ranch. A trainer suffered 23 puncture wounds from a cougar and a woman sued the owner of Catty Shack Ranch after she was attacked by the same cougar.

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December 4, 1999/Williamsville, Missouri: A 5-year-old boy required surgery after he was mauled by a “pet” lion kept chained in a neighbor’s yard. The animal inflicted puncture wounds to the boy’s throat and head. The lion was killed.

October 30, 1999/Buffalo, New York: A keeper at the Buffalo Zoo was bit and clawed by a leopard.

October 21, 1999/Evansville, Indiana: A zookeeper at the Mesker Park Zoo was mauled by a lion who severely injured his leg and arm.

June 26, 1999/Sterling, Kansas: A woman with a group of Boy Scouts visiting Safari Zoological Park was attacked by a caged tiger when she put her hand on the cage.

June 7, 1999/Yorktown, Texas: A 9-year-old girl was killed when her stepfather’s “pet” tiger grabbed her by the neck and dragged her into a water trough.

April 10, 1999/Pearland, Texas: A tiger handler had to be airlifted to the hospital after being attacked by a tiger at a defunct roadside zoo. The tiger was killed.

March 31, 1999/Tyler, Texas: A woman’s arm was nearly severed by a tiger at a compound. A volunteer at the facility, she reached in to pet the tiger, when he attacked. Doctors were unsure whether they would be able to save her arm.

March 16, 1999/Colorado Springs, Colorado: A 6-year-old boy was severely injured by a leopard at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo after he climbed over a rope to get a closer look at the animal. Three months earlier, a woman was scratched by a tiger at the zoo after sticking her hand into a cage.

February 28, 1999/Fort Wayne, Indiana: A tiger mauled an employee of the Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo while she was cleaning the cage, causing injuries to her chest, neck and back.

January 27, 1999/Jackson Township, New Jersey: Police shot and killed a 431-pound tiger who escaped from the Tigers Only Preservation Society, only a few hundred yards from a subdivision.

January 7, 1999/Wichita, Kansas: A 5-month-old tiger cub bit the throat of a 5-year-old child. The tiger belonged to Safari Zoological Park, a roadside zoo that hauls animals around to schools, festivals, and store promotions. The tiger was killed the next day.

1999/Jacksonville, Florida: A cougar from the Catty Shack Ranch bit a 19-month-old child.

November 21, 1998/Chicago, Illinois: A Ringling Bros. circus employee was seriously mauled by a tiger used in the circus when three tigers escaped from a cage in a Chicago parking lot. The tiger clawed the handler on his neck and side. This was the second attack by tigers used by Ringling in one year (see January 7, 1998/St. Petersburg, Florida).

November 18, 1998/Kaufman, Texas: A Texas man was attacked by his “pet” lion and suffered serious injuries. The adult female lion jumped him from behind.

November 15, 1998/Chatham County, North Carolina: A cougar mauled a volunteer with Carnivore Preservation Trust causing numerous bites and deep scratches.

November 13, 1998/Newberry, Florida: The same tiger who killed his trainer on October 8, 1998, attacked and killed his owner. The tiger was shot dead.

November 8, 1998/Cut and Shoot, Texas: Two “pet” tigers escaped a backyard cage and attacked a dog and a pig before being shot dead by police after charging pursuers. In 1997, a “pet” cougar kept by the same man escaped and was never re-captured.

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October 8, 1998/Newberry, Florida: A tiger attacked and killed his trainer at the Holiday's Cat Dancer facility. The tiger had been used in the operation's traveling animal show and featured in Shrine circuses. The tiger grabbed the trainer by the throat.

September 5, 1998/Tampa, Florida: A woman needed 451 stitches after a leopard latched onto her arm with his mouth, removing skin from her elbow to her wrist. The woman was a volunteer at Wildlife on Easy Street, a breeding complex.

August 1, 1998/Myakka City, Florida: A tiger bit the hand of a 14-year-old volunteer with Tiger Claw Productions. The bite stripped flesh and tendons from her hand and required two surgeries to repair.

July 31, 1998/Vallejo, California: A woman getting her photo taken at Marine World with a Bengal tiger was mauled and hospitalized with multiple cuts to her neck and throat. A trainer trying to separate them was also injured.

July 30, 1998/Minot, North Dakota: A 5-year-old boy suffered facial cuts requiring plastic surgery after being attacked by a tiger at a Bridgeport Nature Center photo booth at the state fair.

May 2, 1998/Wylie, Texas: A "pet" cougar bit a 4-year-old boy on the leg. The boy required \$5,800 in medical care.

May 1, 1998/Wichita, Kansas: A tiger scratched or bit an adult while the animal was appearing at a store's promotional event.

April 7, 1998/Charlotte, North Carolina: Two lions at the Charlotte Metro Zoo attacked a keeper, one biting him on the leg while the other took the man's head in his mouth. The keeper suffered deep puncture wounds to his head and leg. He had to be airlifted to a trauma center.

April 1, 1998/Arkansas: A tiger attacked a worker at a breeding compound, biting him on the neck.

February 10, 1998/Lincolnton, North Carolina: A leopard nearly killed his trainer after attacking her at a Royal Palace Circus performance in North Carolina. The trainer suffered injuries requiring reconstructive surgery and hospitalization for a week.

January 7, 1998/St. Petersburg, Florida: A trainer with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus suffered severe head wounds after a tiger grabbed him by the head and dragged him around the ring. He was hospitalized in critical condition and required extensive surgery. The trainer's brother shot the tiger five times after the animal had been returned to the cage, killing him.

1998/Harris County, Texas: A 4-year-old girl was mauled by a Bridgeport Nature Center tiger during photo ops at a county fair. The girl required stitches and \$17,000 in plastic surgery to her leg. The girl's family filed a lawsuit against Bridgeport.

October 22, 1997/Calabasas, California: The same jaguar who attacked a trainer on October 16, 1997, attacked another trainer who suffered bite wounds on his leg and a cut to his hand on a movie set.

October 16, 1997/Calabasas, California: A trainer on a movie set in California underwent surgery to repair a broken leg after being attacked by a jaguar. She was expected to remain hospitalized in fair condition for several days.

August 17, 1997/Marshfield, Massachusetts: A 13-year-old girl was rushed to the emergency room after being bitten by a Bridgeport Nature Center tiger during a photo session in Massachusetts. The girl had to undergo painful rabies treatment. The Marshfield Animal Control Department reported "several" other bites associated with this photo booth.

June 7, 1997/Scappoose, Oregon: A woman suffered deep puncture wounds to the neck and post-traumatic stress disorder when she was attacked by a neighbor's "pet" leopard.

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May 8, 1997/Lubbock, Texas: One of five “pet” tigers mauled his owner. The man was admitted to the hospital in critical condition. The owner’s son killed the tiger.

May 7, 1997/Carrollton, Pennsylvania: A tiger used in the Franzen Bros. Circus killed a trainer in front of 200 horrified schoolchildren.

May 4, 1997/Knox County, Tennessee: A tiger mauled a student at Joe Robinson’s roadside menagerie.

April 29, 1997/Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: A leopard who had escaped from a cage killed a woman at an exotic animal “sanctuary.” Sheriff’s deputies shot and killed the leopard seven hours later when he was found along a road nearly a half-mile from Oak Hill Center for Rare and Endangered Species.

April 27, 1997/San Antonio, Texas: A man lost his finger and his friend was injured when they broke into an exotic animal orphanage and tried to pet a tiger.

March 19, 1997/Orlando, Florida: A tiger escaped from a cage and mauled a keeper at exotic cat breeding compound. The keeper suffered a broken thigh, crushed knee and severed arteries and veins in his leg. Authorities later shot and killed the tiger because they feared the animal would jump a perimeter fence and flee the compound.

March 18, 1997/San Antonio, Texas: A tiger escaped from a wildlife animal refuge, killing an ostrich and pawing a sheriff’s deputy before being tranquilized and recaptured.

March 12, 1997/Caudwell, Texas: A 13-year-old boy was attacked by a “pet” tiger and a lion kept in a cage built into the side of his grandfather’s house. The boy’s father said, “My boy was not mauled, he was being eaten alive.”

1997/Texas: A lion kept in a cage as a backyard “pet” bit a visitor’s hand and tried to pull her into the cage. She had four deeply grooved cuts requiring 21 stitches. The owner claimed that in the past, when the lion “got out of control,” squirting him in the eyes with a spray bottle full of vinegar usually “calmed him down.”

1997/Kirbyville, Texas: A tiger bit two fingers off the left hand of Monique Woodard, owner of the Exotic Cat Refuge and Wildlife Orphanage. Doctors were able to reattach one of the fingers.

December 21, 1996/Brooklyn Park, Minnesota: Three pet-supply store workers were bitten or scratched by a 7-month-old tiger who had been brought to the store to have his picture taken. The three workers agreed to receive rabies shots.

October 9, 1996/Las Vegas, Nevada: A Las Vegas animal trainer had to undergo surgery on his feet and legs after being mauled by a tiger.

September 16, 1996/Crystal Beach, Texas: A declawed “pet” lioness died after she was shot and tranquilized by a deputy. The lioness attacked a man after a burglar had apparently set her free.

July 18, 1996/Middletown, New York: A white tiger from Hawthorn Corporation bit the hand of a carnival worker while performing at the Orange County Fair.

May 6, 1996/Midlothian, Texas: A 6-year-old girl suffered severe injuries to her head, neck, arms, back, and legs in an attack by a tiger, one of seven big cats on a breeding farm. During the investigation it was found that these same cats had been involved in three previous documented attacks.

January 5, 1996/Vallejo, California: One trainer at Marine World Africa was seriously hurt and another received minor injuries when they were attacked by two cougars as they prepared to take the cougars for a walk.

December 27, 1995/Quinlen, Texas: A 3-year-old toddler was mauled by his family’s “pet” cougar. His 6-year-old sister suffered minor injuries in the attack. The cougar was shot and killed.

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December 1, 1995/Fort Worth, Texas: A tiger at the Fort Worth Zoo leaped an 11-foot-wide moat and attacked a zookeeper. The keeper was bitten on the shoulder, arm, and hand and was off work for several weeks.

November 24, 1995/Raleigh, North Carolina: A “pet” Bengal tiger mauled and critically injured a 3-year-old boy while his father was walking the animal on a leash. The tiger was shot and killed.

November 13, 1995/Memphis, Tennessee: Two Sumatran tigers mauled a man who entered an enclosure at the Memphis Zoo.

November 2, 1995/Washington, D.C.: House Speaker Newt Gingrich was bitten on the chin by a baby cougar he was holding. The bite drew blood, but was not considered a serious injury.

October 29, 1995/Allegan, Michigan: While her 9-year-old daughter watched in horror, a woman was attacked and killed by a “pet” lion after she entered a cage at the home of a friend who collected exotic animals. The friend was severely injured when he tried to stop the attack.

September 30, 1995/Indianapolis, Indiana: A lion being used by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus bit off the index finger of a woman who put her hand in a cage in a staging area.

September 27, 1995/Lava Hot Springs, Idaho: Nineteen lions at Ligertown Game Farm were shot and killed after escaping the complex.

September 19, 1995/Haysville, Kansas: A man shot and killed an African lion he found pacing on his driveway after the lion had escaped from a neighbor’s pen.

September 18, 1995/Wesley, Kansas: A 2-year-old boy required hospital treatment for a severe bite on his ear from the family’s 4-month-old cougar.

September 1995/Bloomington, Illinois: A man suffered a 3½-inch gash to his hand when he attempted to pet a leopard at the Miller Park Zoo.

August 6, 1995/Phoenix, Arizona: A cougar at the Phoenix Zoo gashed a 5-year old boy’s arm after he wandered too close to the cage. He required stitches to close the wound and received scratches on the side of his chest.

June 2, 1995/Queens, New York: A 2-year-old boy was bitten by his neighbor’s “pet” cougar when he reached through a barred window to pet the animal. The 9-month-old cougar nearly severed one of the boy’s fingers, which was reattached at the hospital.

May 28, 1995/Novi, Michigan: Seven lions and tigers toppled onto a freeway when the trailer they were in came unhitched. One lion suffered a fractured skull and a tiger bolted across traffic, leading police on a four-hour chase.

March 5, 1995/Washington, D.C.: A woman was fatally mauled by lions after climbing into an enclosure at the National Zoo. The body was so battered and shredded so violently that her fingerprints were gone and her face unrecognizable.

January 2, 1995/Scottsbluff, Nebraska: A zookeeper at the Riverside Zoo required surgery to repair her windpipe and injuries to her face and chest after she was attacked by a leopard.

October 11, 1994/San Diego, California: San Diego Zoo animal trainer Joan Embery suffered two deep gashes on her face by a cheetah she was exhibiting on a television talk show.

September 5, 1994/Jasper, Alabama: A tiger escaped from the private menagerie of Earl and Debra Dobbins and was shot and killed by a neighbor. Another tiger on the Dobbins’ property was taken to the Birmingham Zoo.

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August 8, 1994/Hyde Park, Ohio: A 180-pound “pet” African lion escaped from a home and ran loose in Hyde Park before being recaptured. The animal was later confiscated by authorities, and the owner was cited for possession of a dangerous animal and inducing panic.

June 18, 1994/Columbia, South Carolina: A tiger at an exotic animal farm mauled a 17-year-old worker.

June 7, 1994/Miami, Florida: A senior zookeeper with 20 years’ experience was mauled and killed by a tiger at Miami Metrozoo.

April 5, 1994/Jackson, Mississippi: An 80-pound cheetah scaled an 8-foot fence and pounced on an 8-year-old boy at the Jackson Zoo. The boy was scratched and nipped before the cheetah was recaptured.

March 22, 1994/Beech Grove, Arkansas: A 150-pound declawed “pet” cougar escaped and attacked a 71-year-old year neighbor, inflicting deep bite wounds to the man’s shoulder and arm.

December 12, 1993/Palm Beach, Florida: A worker at the Lion Country Safari was attacked by a lion, causing severe puncture wounds to her head and chest, as well as collapsed lungs.

September 14, 1993/Joplin, Missouri: A circus employee lost part of her arm after an attack by a tiger on the circus’ animal farm. Doctors had to amputate her arm below the elbow.

August 11, 1993/Georgetown, Ohio: Two teenage boys suffered facial cuts when a lion attacked one, and the other attempted to intercede. The boys were walking when a “pet” lion escaped from a cage and attacked them unprovoked.

May 6, 1993/Las Vegas, Nevada: A keeper feeding a trio of lions in the backyard of a Las Vegas residence was hospitalized after one of the cats attacked her. The Circus Vargas employee suffered five gouges to her leg. During an April performance, another employee was bitten by a lion.

May 6, 1993/Bronx, New York: A man with a history of mental instability was mauled by two lions at the Bronx Zoo after he climbed into the cage.

April 17, 1993/Little Rock, Arkansas: A tiger performing with the Shrine Circus at the Barton Coliseum escaped, ran into the audience, and bit a 13-year-old girl. The tiger was owned and trained by Jordan Circus.

February 21, 1993/Norfolk, Virginia: Graham Chipperfield, a Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus big cat trainer, was mauled by a lion while breaking up a fight between two other lions.

February 3, 1993/Wichita, Kansas: A keeper was hospitalized in serious condition with wounds to his face and neck after being mauled by a Bengal tiger at Tanganyika Wildlife Company. The tiger lunged through the open door of a cage and attacked when the keeper bent down to pick up something. A second keeper attempted to beat the tiger away with a shovel and then shot and killed the tiger.

November 30, 1992/Pahrump, Nevada: A man was severely bitten by a tiger owned by animal trainer Alex Pasternak. The tiger had to be shot before he would release his grip.

September 27, 1992/Reno, Nevada: A Reno illusionist suffered “bone-deep” puncture wounds to his leg and arm by a tiger being used in a performance.

May 21, 1992/Muhlenberg Township, Pennsylvania: Two tigers with Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus escaped from an unlocked cage during a performance. One tiger roamed around the center ring, frightening 2,000 spectators before he was recaptured.

April 7, 1992/Iron Hill, Delaware: One of two cougars used by a private breeder jumped 12 feet and attacked a visitor, biting her on the head, neck, and upper back. The breeder said he would sell the two animals and replace them with cubs in order to continue his breeding and dealing operation.

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April 5, 1992/Portland, Oregon: A “pet” lion/tiger hybrid attacked an 11-year-old girl who had to undergo surgery to repair extensive muscle damage in her arm. The animal would not let go and had to be shot and killed.

October 9, 1991/Manchester, New Hampshire: A model was hospitalized for five days and received 50 stitches and rabies shots after being attacked by a lion during a photo session in New Hampshire. A court awarded her a judgment of \$75,000 on March 24, 1995.

September 29, 1991/Jackson County, Kansas: A caged lion bit a man on the hand causing puncture wounds that required stitches after the man attempted to pet the lion at a Christmas tree farm.

September 17, 1991/Tucson, Arizona: A lion cub bit the arm of a 3-year-old girl at the Reid Park Zoo.

August 17, 1991/Fresno, California: A lion with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus bit a man who tried to pet the caged lion.

June 1, 1991/Anderson County, South Carolina: A “pet” lion escaped from a backyard chain-link fenced enclosure and attacked a 5-year-old girl and her grandmother. The girl required stitches. The lion’s owner later shot and killed the lion.

April 18, 1991/Wilkesboro, North Carolina: A 3-year-old girl was attacked by a leopard traveling with the Great American Circus.

November 5, 1990/Phoenix, Arizona: A woman visiting a Phoenix resort was attacked by a tiger while his trainer was walking him on a leash. Witnesses reported that the tiger acted like a “pussycat” only moments before the attack. The woman was hospitalized with severe puncture wounds.

August 9, 1990/Sturgis, South Dakota: A 5-year-old girl was mauled by a leopard who was restrained by a small chain on a box in Engessor’s Endangered Species traveling act. The girl’s mother sued for \$100,000 in damages.

June 18, 1990/Sidney, Montana: A leopard in a petting zoo bit a 7-year-old boy. The owner of the leopard said he had no intention of stopping his shows.

May 1, 1990/San Francisco, California: A zookeeper was mauled by a leopard in front of school children at a San Francisco zoo. The keeper underwent surgery for deep wounds to his head, shoulders, and arm.

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Elephant Incidents in the United States

The following is a partial listing of dangerous incidents involving captive elephants in the United States since 1990. These incidents have resulted in 15 human deaths and more than 135 injuries to humans. Contact PETA for documentation.

January 14, 2011/Knoxville, Tennessee: A keeper at the Knoxville Zoo was crushed against a wall by an 8,000-pound African elephant named Edie while she was feeding the animal. Medics rushed the woman to a hospital, where she died.

July 1, 2010/Toledo, Ohio: A keeper at the Toledo Zoo was critically injured by a 7-year-old, 4,000-pound African elephant named Louie while he was interacting with the animal. Louie charged the man several times and struck him with his tusks. A zoo visitor reported, "The man was body-checked into the iron bars [by the elephant]," and added that the victim was holding his ribs and blood was streaming from the top of his head and down his face. Emergency crews rushed the man to the Toledo Medical Center, where he remained for approximately a month recovering from injuries that included two punctured lungs and broken ribs.

April 27, 2010/Lynchburg, Virginia: An elephant named Viola escaped from the Cole Bros. Circus. She bolted from handlers and ran directly past a line of people waiting to buy tickets, sending some running toward the parking lot. Viola injured her shoulder and broke a toenail when she slid in the mud and fell into a steep ravine. She was on the loose for approximately 30 minutes before being recaptured. The circus claimed that the elephant had been spooked by a rabbit.

April 2010: According to a USDA memo, an elephant named Isa with Carson & Barnes Circus stepped on a trainer/handler. The trainer sustained injuries that required a foot splint and crutches and kept him off work for a few days.

April 9, 2010/Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania: An animal handler with the Hamid Circus was kicked and thrown about 20 feet by an African elephant named Dumbo between performances at the Irem Shrine Circus. The handler died at the scene from multiple traumatic injuries. The elephant had been leased from Joe Frisco's Wonderful World of Animals.

February 6, 2010/Columbia, South Carolina: According to *The State*, "A startled elephant took a wrong turn backstage and broke through the main prop door leading into the Colonial Life Arena during the afternoon pre-show for the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus . . . About 100 spectators on the floor watching the pre-show saw the elephant break through the door toward them and rumble around the performance area, just a few feet away." The pre-show ended early as a result of the incident.

November 4, 2009/Enid, Oklahoma: A 4,500-pound African elephant named Kamba escaped from the Family Fun Circus and collided with an SUV on U.S. 81. The elephant was reportedly about to enter the circus tent to perform when she was startled by someone opening the tent flap and then ran off the fairgrounds and onto the highway. The passenger of the SUV complained of head, left knee, and left hip pain as a result of hitting the passenger door when the driver swerved to avoid the elephant. Kamba sustained a broken tusk, bruising to the trunk, and cuts and scrapes to her left front leg and body. Kamba, who was leased by the circus from exhibitor Doug Terranova, had escaped from another circus the previous year (see June 5, 2008/WaKeeney, Kansas).

March 7, 2009/Indianapolis, Indiana: At least 15 children and one adult were injured when an elephant who was being used to give rides at the Murat Shrine Circus became startled, stumbling and knocking over the scaffolding stairway leading to the elephant ride. People on the elephant's back and others standing on, under, and around the scaffolding were injured.

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Their injuries were treated on the scene. The Shriners had leased the elephant from exhibitor Will Davenport, dba Maximus Tons of Fun.

June 5, 2008/WaKeeney, Kansas: Tornado sirens spooked two elephants who were preparing to perform with the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus. The animals bolted from their tethers and ran through town, causing minor property damage and frightening residents. One woman claimed that she had been chased into her garage. The elephants were pursued by police, sheriff's officers, firefighters, and circus workers. One elephant was shot three times with a tranquilizer gun in an effort by authorities to slow the animal down. The elephants were on the loose for approximately three hours before they were recaptured and loaded onto trucks. The circus had leased the elephants from exhibitor Doug Terranova.

March 6, 2007/Apache Junction, Arizona: An employee with Enterprising Elephants suffered several broken ribs and a dislocated jaw when an elephant became spooked and ran over him at the Arizona Renaissance Festival. The man was rushed to a hospital where he spent a few days.

July 21, 2006/Hohenwald, Tennessee: A staff person at The Elephant Sanctuary was killed by an Asian elephant who was believed to be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. As the woman moved to look at the elephant's apparently sore eye, the animal spun around, knocked her down, and then stepped on her, killing her instantly. Another employee who tried to intervene sustained a minor injury to his foot.

March 5, 2006/Marlborough, Massachusetts: An Asian elephant named Minnie at the Commerford Petting Zoo injured two employees while giving rides at the Best Western Royal Plaza Trade Center. As children were being loaded onto her back, she became agitated and suddenly swung her head toward the two employees, shifting her weight and pinning them against the loading ramp. An eyewitness reported that one of the employees had provoked the elephant by striking her in the face. One man sustained a chest injury and the other a broken arm. Both were taken by ambulance to the hospital. Two bystanders sustained bruises. Minnie had been involved in at least three previous dangerous incidents.

December 12, 2005/San Juan, Puerto Rico: Two elephants with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus sustained cuts and scrapes from arena seats after becoming startled by a barking dog and running amok during a performance in Puerto Rico.

August 25, 2005/Mt. Pleasant Township, Pennsylvania: An Asian elephant named Jewel who was owned by Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus and touring with Wambold's Circus Menagerie suddenly wrapped her trunk around a woman's wrist and yanked her. The woman was reaching out toward the elephant from a crowd of people who were feeding the animal at the county fair. The woman was treated at an emergency room for a sprain and possibly torn ligaments.

April 13, 2005/Polk City, Florida: Ringling elephant handler David Mannes was airlifted to a medical center to treat a fractured pelvis and a soft tissue wound to his arm after he was knocked down and kicked by an Asian elephant named Tova while he was feeding the elephants at Ringling's breeding compound.

January 31, 2005/Fort Wayne, Indiana: An elephant trainer with Tarzan Zerbini Circus was trampled to death by one of the Asian elephants as the animals were being loaded into a trailer following performances at the Mizpah Shrine Circus.

November 2004/McHenry County, Illinois: Two employees at the Hawthorn Corporation's circus-training facility were injured by an elephant. One of the employees was hospitalized and then moved to a convalescent home as a result of the injuries, and the other was unable to work for four days.

October 16, 2004/Tuscaloosa, Alabama: A participant in a fraternity-house event broke his hand when an elephant, apparently startled when a band started playing, swung her head and knocked him to the ground with her trunk. The elephants were provided by Frisco's Elephants.

August 29, 2004/El Paso, Texas: An elephant with the George Carden Circus attacked an arena worker following a performance at the El Maida Shrine Circus. The elephant knocked the man down, threw him into a wall, and pinned him against a fence. He sustained a dislocated shoulder, a torn rotator cuff, and a nerve injury, which required surgery for repair and reconstruction and resulted in more than \$15,000 in medical bills.

July 4, 2004/Clinton, Iowa: An African elephant named Nosey, with the Liebel Family Circus, attacked a circus worker who was tending to a water dish. The elephant hit the worker with her tusk, lifting him off his feet and propelling him down an incline. The man was rushed to the hospital and received stitches for a head injury.

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June 1, 2004/Vallejo, California: A veteran elephant trainer at Six Flags Marine World was gored and critically injured as he stood next to a 7,000-pound African elephant named Misha (see June 22, 2001/Vallejo, California, and April 10, 1990/Oakdale, California). The elephant knocked him down with her trunk and ran her tusk into the trainer's back, penetrating all the way through his abdomen.

July 18, 2003/Indianapolis, Indiana: An African elephant named Ivory attacked a trainer at the Indianapolis Zoo, causing a leg injury that required surgery. Ivory was agitated when she heard her 3-year-old calf cry out. The zoo, which uses circus-style training, had removed the calf for training.

March 2, 2003/Muskegon, Michigan: A 9,000-pound African elephant performing with Jordan World Circus at the Shrine Circus escaped from a tent shortly before a performance and was recaptured 15 minutes later in a busy downtown area.

December 15, 2002/Miami, Florida: Flora, an African elephant, went on a rampage at Miami MetroZoo, knocking and kicking one elephant trainer 15 feet into a pile of rocks and injuring a second one who tried to stop the attack. The incident occurred as the trainer was demonstrating to 50 zoo visitors how the zoo dominates elephants. The zookeeper was critically injured, with broken shoulders, a broken arm, a bruised brain, and a ruptured spleen.

November 18, 2002/Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: An African elephant at the Pittsburgh Zoo butted a zookeeper, pinned him to the ground, and crushed him to death with her head. The keeper had been prodding the elephant with a bullhook during a morning walk.

June 17, 2002/Menomonie, Wisconsin: An Asian elephant named Tory and an African elephant named Mary, performing with the Shrine Circus, bolted out of a circus tent during a show, scattering crowds. Mary hiked 2 miles through town and was recaptured at the University of Wisconsin–Stout campus when trucks blocked her escape. One child was injured, and the elephants damaged a door at the park and caused \$600 in damage to a city truck. The Shriners had contracted with George Carden Circus for the event.

March 13, 2002/Easley, South Carolina: An African elephant named Tonya, belonging to Robert Childress and used in various circuses, escaped the control of her handlers while she was being loaded into a trailer, fled into nearby woods, and was recaptured with the assistance of police. This is the fourth time that Tonya has run amok (see June 22, 2000/Washington, Pennsylvania; February 16, 1998/Mentor, Ohio; and August 30, 1997/York, Maine).

February 2002/Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: An African elephant at the Pittsburgh Zoo injured a former Ringling elephant trainer who had been hired by the zoo, causing a collapsed lung and leg injuries.

October 27, 2001/Charlotte, North Carolina: Debbie and Judy, two Asian elephants leased by Hawthorn Corporation to Circus Vazquez, rampaged throughout a church. Two church members were nearly trampled, and children had to be quickly ushered to safety. The elephants crashed into the church through a glass window, broke and buckled walls and door frames, and knocked a car 15 feet, causing an estimated \$75,000 in damages. The elephants suffered cuts and bruises. Debbie had rampaged twice before (see July 10, 1995/Queens, New York, and May 19, 1995/Hanover, Pennsylvania).

August 24, 2001/Knoxville, Tennessee: A 40-year-old African elephant named Mamie became spooked, broke free from the handlers, and smashed through a metal gate while being taken on a walk at the Knoxville Zoo. One handler required five stitches for a gash on his head caused when the elephant knocked him down, and another suffered a broken rib when the elephant swiped at him.

June 22, 2001/Vallejo, California: An African elephant named Misha at Six Flags Marine World, apparently apprehensive about the daily cleaning of an artificial insemination surgery site, attacked a trainer, pushing him to the ground and into bushes.

June 10, 2001/Denver, Colorado: When a trainer dropped a barrel during a bathing demonstration at the Denver Zoo, a 6,700-pound Asian elephant named Hope became startled and went into a rampage, throwing the trainer against a wall, scattering crowds of zoogoers, and knocking over a mother and her baby in a stroller. The baby was treated at a hospital for a bump on the head, the trainer suffered cuts and bruises, a man sprained his ankle, and a woman had an asthma attack while running away from the elephant. Hope was recaptured three hours later. Hope and a baby elephant had been leased two weeks earlier from the California-based company Have Trunk Will Travel to perform daily shows during the summer.

June 22, 2000/Washington, Pennsylvania: An African elephant named Tonya traveling with Circus Hope became

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frightened when children approached her with toy horns. Tonya escaped the control of the handlers and was later led back to her tent by police officers, security personnel, and trainers. All the animals in the circus were “on edge” because of highway noise and the surface of the parking lot.

April 20, 2000/Yucca Valley, California: Barbara and Connie, two African elephants being used by the Culpepper & Merriweather Circus, escaped from the pens. One stomped down three city blocks, frightening bystanders. Authorities said that a circus employee trying to get the second elephant under control was “trampled.”

January 26, 2000/Riverview, Florida: A female African elephant named Kenya attacked and killed a trainer at the Ramos Family Circus winter compound. Kenya knocked the trainer to the ground, stepped on her, and knocked her down a second time when the woman tried to stand up. Kenya was used in the Ramos’ traveling shows and to give rides.

December 22, 1999/Madison, Wisconsin: An Asian elephant named Winkie attacked two keepers at the Henry Vilas Zoo, throwing one against the wall and grabbing the other in her mouth. The elephant has injured people at least three other times since being brought to the zoo in 1966.

October 4, 1999/Dallas, Texas: An African elephant, reportedly named Kamba, walked out of the ring in which she was performing and out into a Dallas intersection filled with spectators. It took two hours for handlers to coax her back into the arena.

May 12, 1999/Bethune, South Carolina: Flora, an African elephant with Circus Flora, grabbed a woman with her trunk as she was dismounting from a ride and threw her against a tree three times. The woman was in a body brace for three months with many broken bones and received \$468,000 as settlement of a lawsuit.

April 29, 1999/Duluth, Minnesota: An animal handler with the Tarzan Zerbini Circus (also doing business as Circus Maximus) was injured by an elephant and hospitalized in serious condition with multiple injuries.

February 21, 1999/Poughkeepsie, New York: Luna, an African elephant with the Royal Hanneford Circus, escaped the ring and charged the crowd in the middle of a performance. Luna ran through two tiers of seats, causing panic and sending spectators running for safety.

November 9, 1998/Indianapolis, Indiana: Cita, a 29-year-old African elephant at the Indianapolis Zoo, attacked a keeper after being reprimanded. She struck the keeper with her trunk, breaking several ribs.

August 27, 1998/Syracuse, New York: While carrying children on her back at a state fair, an elephant with the Commerford & Sons petting zoo panicked, knocking down and then stepping on the trainer. A 3-year-old girl was also injured after falling off the elephant. Both of the injured people were treated at a local hospital.

July 1998/Madison, Wisconsin: An Asian elephant named Winky and an African elephant named Penny injured a zookeeper at the Henry Vilas Zoo. The zookeeper was “picked up by one, thrown, and [then] knelt down upon by a second elephant.”

February 21, 1998/Indio, California: An elephant being ridden in a festival show became spooked, reared back, and bolted back to the pen, taking the “queen of the festival” with her.

February 16, 1998/Mentor, Ohio: An African elephant named Tonya panicked while in a high school hallway and forced open a door. She ran a quarter of a mile and damaged a police car before being caught outside a discount store.

August 30, 1997/York, Maine: Two African elephants fled from York Wild Kingdom when they were startled by a truck. One elephant was found in a wooded area behind neighborhood houses.

June 28, 1997/Seagoville, Texas: A 65-year-old man who entered a “storage yard for circus animals” was attacked by an elephant and suffered a broken arm and dislocated shoulder.

May 28, 1997/Gainesville, Texas: An Asian elephant named Gerry II at the Frank Buck Zoo crushed a handler to death.

October 20, 1996/Los Angeles, California: An assistant trainer was attacked by Calle, a female Asian elephant during a

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training exercise at the Los Angeles Zoo. Onlookers reported that the elephant grabbed the worker's head, knocked him down, and tried to trample him. He was taken to a nearby hospital and treated for three broken ribs and a broken collarbone.

June 14, 1996/Casper, Wyoming: An Asian elephant knocked down and repeatedly kicked a trainer. At the time of the incident, the elephant was giving rides to children. One child fell off the elephant. This elephant was performing with Jordan World Circus and is currently owned by John Cuneo.

March 5, 1996/Comfort, Texas: A high school principal suffered two broken ribs and was nearly trampled when he fell off an elephant with King Royal Circus. He had been preparing to ride the elephant in a race when the animal became upset and shook him off.

July 10, 1995/Queens, New York: Two Asian elephants with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus went on a rampage, triggering a panic among hundreds of spectators that left 12 people injured. Six spectators were hospitalized after Debbie and Frieda bolted from the circus tent and crashed into a parked car before being brought under control by a trainer.

May 19, 1995/Hanover, Pennsylvania: Debbie and Frieda, two Asian elephants with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, rampaged at the North Hanover Mall, smashing store windows, damaging cars, and escaping into the woods. Frieda had killed Joan Scovell, 47, of New London, Connecticut, in 1985 by grabbing the woman with her trunk and throwing her down to the ground in a parking lot of the New London Mall.

February 6, 1995/Fort Wayne, Indiana: An employee of Tarzan Zerbini Circus was stepped on by an Asian elephant named Roxie while loading the elephants into a trailer. The employee suffered a crushed pelvis and was in critical condition.

October 10, 1994/Riley County, Kansas: A 3-year-old girl was feeding grass to Mickey, a 15-month-old Asian elephant at the King Royal Circus, when the elephant wrapped his trunk around her neck and attempted to pull her into the arena. The girl was treated for injuries at a local hospital.

August 20, 1994/Honolulu, Hawaii: Tyke, an African elephant with Circus International, killed a trainer and stomped and injured a circus groom and a dozen spectators. Tyke had run amok just before a performance, breaking out of the arena and leading police on a chase down several city blocks until they shot her to death with almost 100 bullets. This was the second elephant incident at the circus in as many weeks. Multiple lawsuits were filed. Tyke had rampaged twice before (see July 23, 1993/Minot, North Dakota and April 21, 1993/Altoona, Pennsylvania).

August 15, 1994/Honolulu, Hawaii: An elephant with Circus International pinned Sean Floyd, his wife, and their eight children under a fence that separated the first row of spectators from the circus rings. Floyd and his 15-year-old daughter, Rachel, suffered injuries. Suits were filed against John Cuneo and the Hawthorn Corporation, owners of the elephant, and also against Roy Yempuku, the circus promoter.

July 18, 1994/New York, New York: An African elephant with the Moscow Circus attacked a Russian translator backstage at ABC's *Live With Regis and Kathie Lee* television show. The elephant repeatedly smashed her head into the woman, pinning her to a wall and leaving her with a skull fracture, broken ribs, and a punctured lung. Lawsuits were filed against the circus, the show, and ABC for \$5 million.

July 1, 1994/Louisville, Kentucky: A man visiting the Louisville Zoological Gardens was picked up and dropped several times by an African elephant named Kenya. As a result of the man's injuries, his spleen and part of his pancreas were removed. The elephant had just finished giving rides to zoo visitors and was being led away when she wandered off and picked up the man. Zoo officials claimed that the elephant, who was normally considered calm and docile, was just "horsing around."

April 6, 1994/Salt Lake City, Utah: While giving rides to two children, an Asian elephant picked up, tossed, and stepped on an animal trainer with the Jordan Circus, breaking his arm and ribs and causing internal organ damage. Another trainer was also injured in the incident.

April 1994/Muskegon, Michigan: Three children were injured when an elephant who was giving rides at a Shrine-sponsored circus fell into the passenger loading platform, spilling the riders and bending the platform.

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February 24, 1994/Chicago, Illinois: An elephant handler suffered broken ribs, a broken sternum, a collapsed lung, and a wound on her back when she slipped under an Asian elephant who she was trying to secure. The elephant, named Shanti, had broken through some chains and ropes in the holding area at the Lincoln Park Zoo. The handler sought \$1 million in damages against the zoo.

January 30, 1994/Cleveland, Ohio: Tiani, an African elephant at the Cleveland Zoo, lunged at a keeper, gashing his head. Although zoo officials said that the elephant had never before acted so aggressively, they believe she had a “temper tantrum” as a result of being confined during a subzero cold spell.

September 1993/Vallejo, California: Radio personality Scott Stuart was posing on the back of an elephant at Marine World for a publicity photograph when the elephant ran across a public area and threw Stuart onto a cement path. The elephant was being used to give rides to children. Stuart sued the park for the injuries he suffered and was awarded \$600,000 in an out-of-court settlement.

July 23, 1993/Minot, North Dakota: Tyke, the African elephant who was killed in the August 20, 1994, incident described above, escaped from a trainer while at the North Dakota State Fair and trampled an elephant show worker, breaking two of his ribs.

July 10, 1993/Tampa, Florida: Tillie, an Asian elephant at the Lowry Park Zoo, killed a keeper by pinning her to the ground and kicking her in the chest. Several weeks before, the elephant had pushed the same keeper into a moat surrounding the elephant compound.

June 5, 1993/Fishkill, New York: An Asian elephant crushed a man to death by pinning him against a trailer in the elephant area of the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus grounds at the Fishkill Mall.

May 5, 1993/Williston, Florida: A circus trainer died of internal injuries after an Asian elephant named Reba knocked him down and stomped on his chest at a Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus elephant farm.

April 21, 1993/Altoona, Pennsylvania: A female African elephant, Tyke, charged through an arena entryway during a Great American Circus performance. She ripped away part of the wall, causing \$10,000 in damage. More than 3,000 children were in the audience. One young girl suffered injuries to her ankle, and Hawthorn Corporation made a cash settlement with her parents. The elephant ran out onto an upstairs balcony and was later coaxed back by trainers.

December 16, 1992/San Antonio, Texas: An Asian elephant named Ginny killed a keeper by grabbing him and slamming him to the ground as he was leading a group of elephants into an enclosure at the San Antonio Zoo.

December 3, 1992/Cleveland, Ohio: A 4,500-pound elephant named Tribby shoved a Cleveland Metroparks Zoo employee into a wall with her head, trunk, and tusks. The keeper sustained a torn rotator cuff and received cortisone shots to alleviate the pain. Tribby had previously injured a keeper at the Pittsburgh Zoo, knocking him down and crushing his pelvis.

October 15, 1992/Bloomington, Minnesota: A handler was hospitalized for a leg injury when an Asian elephant named Bunny grabbed him with her mouth while she was giving rides to several children at a Shrine circus. One child suffered a minor leg injury.

August 31, 1992/Indianapolis, Indiana: A 3-year-old girl sustained permanent facial scarring after falling off an elephant during a ride at the Indianapolis Zoo. Three others riding with the girl also fell to the ground.

July 15, 1992/Lafayette, Indiana: Nine people were injured when they could not get out of the way as elephants in the Tarzan Zerbini International Circus collided and toppled a barricade at a shopping center.

February 1, 1992/Palm Bay, Florida: Janet (aka Kelly), an Asian elephant with the Great American Circus, went on a rampage while carrying children on her back. She injured 12 people and threw a police officer to the ground before being shot and killed by police.

December 1991/Houston, Texas: Indu, an Asian elephant at the Houston Zoo, attacked a trainer and broke his collarbone and four ribs.

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July 1991/Portland, Oregon: Tamba, an Asian elephant at Metro Washington Park Zoo, knocked down the same trainer she had slammed against a wall seven months previously, this time fracturing his skull. See December 7, 1990/Portland, Oregon.

March 15, 1991/San Diego, California: A keeper was killed by an Asian elephant at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

January 12, 1991/Oakland, California: An animal handler who was cleaning an elephant pen at the Oakland Zoo was kicked to death by an African elephant named Smokey.

December 7, 1990/Portland, Oregon: A trainer at the Metro Washington Park Zoo was slammed against the steel-clad corner of a concrete door by an Asian elephant named Tamba and sustained severe head and brain injuries.

October 1990/Indianapolis, Indiana: A father and his 2-year-old son fell off an African elephant named Kubwa during a ride at the Indianapolis Zoo. The man suffered a dislocated hip and a severe groin injury.

July 8, 1990/Reading, Pennsylvania: During a Great American Circus show, an elephant attacked a trainer and went on a rampage, panicking the crowd and injuring one man.

June 21, 1990/Ft. Lauderdale, Florida: An Asian elephant named Carol with the Hanneford Family Circus kicked and sat on a handler after being startled by a passing car. The man was crushed to death.

June 1990/Oakland, California: An African elephant named Lisa attacked a keeper at the Oakland Zoo, ripping off her index finger and the end of her thumb.

April 10, 1990/Oakdale, California: An African elephant from Marine World Africa USA in Vallejo threw the passengers off her back while she was giving rides at a private party in the Oakdale area. The elephant began spinning and bumping into cars before she was brought under control. One passenger fell and was dragged 40 feet before being freed.

March 19, 1990/Loxahatchee, Florida: An African elephant named JoJo injured a handler at Lion Country Safari when she lifted him with her trunk, spun him around over her head, threw him to the ground twice, and gored him. The handler had five crushed ribs and a damaged liver and required 23 pints of blood.

February 13, 1990/San Francisco, California: An elephant keeper at the San Francisco Zoo suffered a fractured back when he was pushed into a moat by an Asian elephant named Tinkerbelle.



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Primate Incidents in the United States

The following is a partial listing of incidents involving captive primates in the United States since 1990. These incidents have resulted in the killing of 30 primates, one human death, and more than 205 human injuries. Contact PETA for documentation.

March 15, 2011/West Knoxville, Tennessee: Three police officers, an animal control officer, and a crime-scene technician were dispatched to a local residence after a report that a “pet” capuchin monkey had been found in a backyard tree. The 4-pound, 46-year-old monkey was captured when her caretaker eventually arrived on the scene.

March 11, 2011/Salt Lake City, Utah: All four spider monkeys at the Hogle Zoo escaped from an enclosure and were seen climbing trees and approaching local wildlife, all while in close proximity to the public, before keepers recaptured them.

March 2, 2011/Fort Madison, Iowa: Authorities discovered that a 10-year-old child who had been taken to the Fort Madison Hospital for a cat bite had actually been bitten by a “pet” macaque.

January 14, 2011/Scottsbluff, Nebraska: A keeper at the Riverside Discovery Center was attacked by an adult chimpanzee when she attempted to pet the animal. When the chimpanzee grabbed the woman’s hand, she began screaming, which attracted another chimpanzee, who also grabbed her hand. The keeper’s index and ring fingers on one hand were bitten off at the knuckles, and the middle finger was lacerated. She was taken to a hospital for treatment.

December 22, 2010/Miami, Florida: A “pet” capuchin monkey escaped and bit a person, who was taken to the hospital. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission took possession of the monkey to determine if the animal had rabies.

November 7, 2010/Oneida Castle, New York: Robert Jones’ 8-year-old “pet” capuchin monkey, named Jada, escaped from Jones’ home by opening a screen door. The animal wandered into a neighbor’s yard and attacked a woman who was outside playing with her son. Jada jumped onto the woman’s arm and then bit her finger when she reached out to keep the monkey away from the child. The woman was taken to the hospital for puncture wounds. The fire department, state police, and sherriff were called to the scene. Jada was captured and killed in order to be tested for rabies.

November 2010/Phoenix, Arizona: A “pet” rhesus macaque bit a person on the hand and was subsequently killed.

October 19, 2010/Kansas City, Missouri: Mark Archigo’s adult “pet” chimpanzee, Sueko, escaped from a cage inside a truck and rampaged through a Kansas City neighborhood for 40 minutes. Sueko charged at two young girls who were out for a morning walk, opened the passenger door of a sport utility vehicle that drove into the neighborhood, broke a gate and fence, and pounded on parked vehicles, passing cars, and the front door of a house. As authorities attempted to tranquilize the animal, Sueko charged a police car, pushed a trash can against its front bumper, climbed onto the car’s hood, pounded on the roof, and kicked the windshield, breaking it. Sueko was finally

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recaptured when she walked into Archigo's van. Archigo has been in and out of legal trouble over Sueko since 1995 (see 2000/Jackson County, Missouri and 1995/Kansas City, Missouri).

September 2010/San Antonio, Texas: A spider monkey escaped from Primarily Primates after an enclosure was damaged by a tropical storm. The monkey traveled at least six miles in one day and was on the loose for nine days before being tranquilized and recaptured.

August 28, 2010/Miami, Florida: A white-handed gibbon escaped an enclosure at Jungle Island after a worker left the gate open. The gibbon jumped into a tiger enclosure, and a 500-pound tiger jumped over a fence and escaped into the park while chasing the ape. At one point, the tiger came face to face with a 2-year-old toddler. More than 100 park visitors were ushered into a dark barn for protection. Four people were hurt during the chaos and were treated for minor injuries. A fifth person was transported to a hospital after suffering a panic attack. The gibbon was later found on a picnic table and recaptured.

July 31, 2010/Greenwich, New York: A lemur at the Ashville Game Farm bit a 7-year-old boy. The boy was petting the lemur as other people were feeding the animal when the boy was bitten on the thumb. The victim received a series of rabies shots and a judge ordered that three lemurs at the facility be killed and tested for rabies.

July 21, 2010/Hamilton County, Indiana: A 40-pound, 3-foot-tall "pet" patas monkey injured a teenage boy and bit a family dog on the ear after escaping from a cage and running through the family's house for 20 minutes. Someone in the house called 911 and told the dispatcher that the monkey was a dangerous wild animal. A witness to the attack on the boy remarked that he had "never seen any animal jump on top of somebody and just start attacking him." Family members locked themselves in different rooms to avoid the monkey until police, paramedics, and animal control responded to the 911 call.

July 21, 2010/Mechanicsville, Virginia: Six chimpanzees escaped an enclosure at Windy Oaks Animal Farm when a gate was left open. Two male chimpanzees were still on the loose when animal control received a call about the incident. Upon arriving at the scene, the animal control officer was advised by Curtis Shepperson, owner of Windy Oaks, to stay in his car in order to avoid further agitating the chimpanzees. Windy Oaks did not have knowledgeable staff or equipment on site to tranquilize the escaped chimpanzees. At least two hours after animal control was first called to the scene, a sheriff's deputy shot one of the chimpanzees with a dart and the animal was returned to the enclosure. Animal control officials and sheriff's deputies searched the compound for the second chimpanzee but could not find him. He was recaptured the next day. According to Windy Oaks' veterinarian, this escape was the third such incident at the facility.

July 18, 2010/Catskill, New York: A woman was mauled by a "pet" capuchin monkey who was being kept at the Kaaterskill Lodge. The victim was taking photographs of the monkey when the animal jumped out of the enclosure and attacked her. The woman was left with a scar down her cheek and had to receive rabies shots because Allen Hirsch, the owner of the lodge, disappeared with the monkey after the attack.

July 17, 2010/Wichita, Kansas: Nine chimpanzees escaped an enclosure at the Sedgwick County Zoo and were found in a maintenance area when keepers arrived at work in the morning. Eight of the chimpanzees were returned to the enclosure, but one adult male was loose for two hours before being tranquilized and recaptured.

March 29, 2010/Chesapeake, Virginia: Babe Hamerick was attacked for the second time in two weeks by his "pet" capuchin monkey, named Noah. The monkey reportedly went "berserk" and attacked Hamerick's legs and bit his left hand, severing his pinky finger. Police, animal control, and paramedics were called to the scene, and the victim was taken to a hospital, where he underwent surgery for his injuries.

March 17, 2010/Chesapeake, Virginia: Babe Hamerick was attacked by his "pet" capuchin monkey, named Noah, when he accidentally stepped on the monkey's foot. The man described the attack as worse than war, which he claimed was "a breeze compared to my little fight with [Noah, which] cut the vein, tore ligaments out of my wrists. I'm pumping blood all over." His injuries were treated at a hospital.

March 4, 2010/St. Petersburg, Florida: A rhesus macaque was shot twice with tranquilizer darts but managed to elude wildlife officials who were attempting to capture the animal. The monkey had been on the loose for more than a year

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February 2010/Palm Harbor, Florida: Two chimpanzees at a roadside zoo called Suncoast Primate Sanctuary escaped from a cage that was not properly secured. One of the animals, described as typically gentle, relentlessly attacked and chased a female volunteer. The victim, who escaped the attack by locking herself in a bathroom, was hospitalized for treatment of serious injuries, including a deep laceration on the back of her head, damaged tendons in her right hand, and bite wounds on her thigh, back, and abdomen. When a sheriff's deputy responded to the incident, he was denied access and reported that zoo staff were "very uncooperative and intentionally deceptive and evasive."

2010/Jacksonville, North Carolina: A pigtail macaque at the Lynnwood Park Zoo was shot to death after biting the roadside zoo's owner.

November 22, 2009/LaPorte, Indiana: A 10-month-old girl was attacked by a "pet" Java macaque belonging to Richard and Laura Burlos. The attack occurred when the girl was held too close to the cage. The monkey grabbed the hood of the infant's coat, as well as her hair, causing the baby's head to strike the metal cage repeatedly. The baby sustained a "rope burn" to her neck that was caused by the drawstring on her coat and had red marks on the back of her head as a result of her head hitting the cage.

November 12, 2009/Tampa, Florida: A macaque got loose in a residential neighborhood. It was not known where the monkey escaped from or how the animal got loose.

October 2009/Pine Mountain, Georgia: A mangabey at Wild Animal Safari escaped while staff was moving the animal from one enclosure to another. The monkey was shot and killed by zookeepers after climbing the zoo's perimeter fence.

September 6, 2009/Scottsbluff, Nebraska: Four spider monkeys escaped from an enclosure at the Riverside Zoo while they were being fed. One of the monkeys attacked a zookeeper, who sustained bites to her arms and legs. The bites required multiple stitches. Three of the monkeys were quickly recaptured, but the fourth monkey remained loose on zoo grounds for approximately five hours.

September 1, 2009/Los Angeles: Two chimpanzees escaped from their crates while they were being unloaded at the Los Angeles Zoo following their transfer from Wildlife Waystation, which had been threatened by a wildfire. One chimpanzee climbed over the fence and into Griffith Park, where she was spotted approximately an hour later and secured in the back of a truck. The other chimpanzee remained loose on zoo grounds for 20 minutes before being tranquilized.

June 12, 2009/Columbia, South Carolina: A 390-pound gorilla at the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden escaped by grabbing some low-hanging bamboo, scaling the 12-foot-4-inch wall of the enclosure, and climbing over two high-voltage security wires. The animal rushed at two food-service employees, pushing one aside and knocking the other down before jumping back into the enclosure. One of the employees was taken to a hospital, where he was treated for cuts and bruises.

June 5, 2009/Candia, New Hampshire: A macaque escaped from an enclosure at Charmingfare Farm when a worker left two doors unlocked. The worker was bitten on his calf as he tried to recapture the animal. As a result of his injuries, the worker required medical attention.

May 26, 2009/Columbus, Ohio: A gorilla at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium escaped from an enclosure through a door that was improperly secured and walked into a hallway used by zookeepers. Visitors were evacuated from the area, and the zoo's entrance was closed for approximately 45 minutes. While the entrance was closed, the gorilla was coaxed back into the enclosure.

April 21, 2009/ Corpus Christi, Texas: A squirrel monkey bit a man who was transporting the animal to Michigan. Animal control officers planned to quarantine the monkey for three months to test for diseases.

April 18, 2009/Salem, Oregon: A man's "pet" monkey bit a 6-year-old girl at a park. The monkey lunged at the girl, grabbed her hair, scratched her, and bit her under the left eye, leaving two puncture marks. The man left the park before authorities arrived. The girl was taken to an urgent care facility, where she was treated.

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April 14, 2009/Springfield, Missouri: A rhesus macaque escaped from an exotic-animal menagerie owned by Debby Rose. The macaque went to a nearby home, and when the homeowner knocked on a window to scare the animal off, the macaque lunged at the window.

April 3, 2009/Portland, Oregon: Nine macaques escaped from the Oregon Health & Science University when a worker left the cage unlocked. It took almost three days to recapture all the monkeys.

March 30, 2009/Winston, Missouri: A 9-year-old chimpanzee named Timmy escaped from a cage (which measured 10 feet by 6 feet) at a private residence and ran loose on a nearby state highway. Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to help recapture the chimpanzee, who at one point opened a deputy's patrol car door, grabbed the deputy's leg, and tried to strike him. When the chimpanzee attempted to attack the man again, the chimpanzee was shot and killed. The deputy suffered minor injuries and the owners of the chimpanzee suffered cuts and scratches.

March 13, 2009/Fruitland Park, Florida: A spider monkey named Reggie escaped from the Liebling Family Circus when the circus owner failed to latch a leash correctly. The monkey fled into nearby woods and was not recaptured until nearly five weeks later.

February 25, 2009/East Ridge, Tennessee: An obese "pet" spider monkey was found wandering through someone's yard and was captured by animal control officials.

February 25, 2009/Athens, Georgia: An animal-care technician at the University of Georgia suffered a severe bite to her thumb while cleaning the cage of a capuchin monkey. She was taken by ambulance to the hospital and later transferred to a hand specialist in Atlanta for additional treatment.

February 19, 2009/Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: An orangutan named Elok escaped from an enclosure at the Oklahoma City Zoo by climbing into the moat and then over the exhibit wall. Twenty zoo visitors were ushered into buildings until Elok was recaptured approximately 100 feet from the enclosure.

February 19, 2009/Seattle, Washington: A DeBrazza's monkey at the Woodland Park Zoo escaped from an enclosure by swimming across a moat and climbing a rock wall. The zoo was evacuated and the monkey was on the loose for approximately 25 minutes before being tranquilized and recaptured. Other monkeys had previously escaped from the same enclosure.

February 16, 2009/Stamford, Connecticut: Sandra Herold's 200-pound, 14-year-old "pet" chimpanzee named Travis escaped from the house and attacked a woman, inflicting massive injuries to her face and hands. The woman required more than seven hours of stabilizing surgery by four teams of doctors. She reportedly lost her hands, nose, lips, and eyelids in the attack. The bone structure of her face was also damaged, and she might have lost her vision and suffered brain damage. Doctors will determine if she may be a candidate for a face transplant. At least three other people—including two police officers—were injured during the fracas. In an effort to stop the attack, Herold stabbed the chimpanzee repeatedly with a butcher knife. Police officers shot him numerous times before he made his way back into the house where he died. Neighbors reported that they often saw Travis roaming the streets in the neighborhood, sometimes unleashed, and that he frequently rode around in trucks with his owners. Travis had been involved in at least two previous incidents [see October 19, 2003 and 1996/Stamford, Connecticut].

February 2, 2009/Flour Bluff, Texas: An escaped or abandoned Ring-tailed lemur was discovered when children were seen playing with the animal outdoors. The animal, who had a hurt arm and reportedly had possibly gotten a little nippy with the children, was seized by authorities and the owners were ticketed for illegally possessing an exotic animal.

January 30, 2009/New Orleans, Louisiana: An orangutan named Berani escaped from an enclosure at the Audubon Zoo by stretching a T-shirt to help him scale a 10½-foot wall. He then wrapped the shirt around an electric wire surrounding the exhibit and finally swung out of the exhibit. The orangutan stood on a boardwalk with zoo visitors nearby for approximately 10 minutes before returning to the exhibit.

January 24, 2009/Naples, Florida: A worker at Gary's Paradise Gardens was attacked by a capuchin monkey. The monkey escaped through a space that was created when the worker removed the food bowl from the side of the cage. The woman was bitten on her right leg, lower arm, and hand and required stitches for some of the wounds.

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2009/Mechanicsville, Virginia: Chimpanzees at Windy Oaks Animal Farm broke some welds on an enclosure, and two male chimpanzees pushed through a wire panel, opened a door, and escaped.

November 10, 2008/Carbon County, Montana: A woman was taken to a hospital for treatment after a chimpanzee named Conner latched on to her arm with his teeth. The woman lost 6 to 8 inches of skin. Conner was one of two chimpanzees who escaped from the home of Jeanne Rizzotto and ran to a neighbor's yard, where they were seen chasing cats up trees, swinging from the roof of the house, and getting into cars and trucks. One of the chimpanzees was also seen crossing a highway. The bite victim had been trying to prevent Conner from entering a home. The animals were recaptured, and Conner was quarantined at Rizzotto's home.

September 24, 2008/Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: An 18-pound macaque monkey bit and then mauled the hand of a University of Pittsburgh laboratory technician. The macaque grabbed a pole that the technician was using to test the animal's water system, pulled the woman's hand into the cage, and bit her palm. "My hand was in its mouth," the woman said. "It was clamping down on it and munching on it for up to a minute. I had no choice but to pull my hand out in shreds." The animal's teeth penetrated to the bone and the woman sustained bone, tendon, and nerve damage. She underwent three surgeries to treat recurring infections and was released from the hospital after eight days, at which time she still had no feeling in two fingers and was awaiting results of blood tests on the monkey to determine if she had been exposed to hepatitis B or other infections.

August 8, 2008/Bend, Oregon: A 120-pound chimpanzee at Chimps, Inc., escaped from an unlocked enclosure and bit an intern. The intern was treated on the scene by firefighters and then driven to a hospital.

August 2008/Cincinnati, Ohio: A white-handed gibbon escaped from a cage at the Cincinnati Zoo and made his way to the parking lot where he bit a visitor on the leg. The gibbon was quarantined, and the zoo decided that he would no longer be allowed outdoors.

July 2008/Orange Park, Florida: A Japanese macaque was spotted running loose in a subdivision. Wildlife officials attempted to capture the animal with a trap and warned the public that macaques have sharp teeth and are prone to biting.

June 27, 2008/Devore, California: A chimpanzee named Moe escaped from a cage at Jungle Exotics, surprised construction workers when he wandered into a house next-door, and then continued on into the San Bernardino National Forest. After more than a month, search efforts were called off because of mounting expenses. Eight months later, Moe had still not been found.

June 11, 2008/Michigan City, Indiana: A spider monkey escaped from an enclosure at the Washington Park Zoo by using a garden hose to scale the wall of the moat. The moat had been emptied of water and was being cleaned by workers. The monkey was recaptured at a nearby boat dealership.

June 5, 2008/Queens, New York: A 22-month-old girl had her finger bitten off by a neighbor's "pet" capuchin monkey when she stuck her fingers through her backyard fence and into the pen of the monkey who was caged next to the fence. Doctors worked for 12 hours attempting to reattach the girl's finger but were unsuccessful. The monkey was euthanized in order to be tested for rabies.

May 17, 2008/Los Angeles, California: A 29-year-old orangutan at the Los Angeles Zoo punched a hole in the mesh of an exhibit and escaped into a holding area behind a cage. Zoo officials ushered visitors to the zoo exit while the orangutan was sedated by zookeepers.

May 17, 2008/Tampa, Florida: A 10-year-old orangutan escaped from an enclosure at Busch Gardens by scaling a 12-foot wall and climbing onto the roof of an exhibit, where she was just feet away from zoo visitors. The public, including a group of nearby children, was evacuated from the area. The orangutan was lured back to the enclosure nearly one hour after she escaped.

April 21, 2008/Polk County, Florida: Fifteen patas monkeys escaped from Safari Wild by swimming across a 60-foot-wide moat and then climbing a 28-foot fence. One monkey was shot to death, and it took nearly eight months to recapture the rest of them.

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April 11, 2008/Trenton, Michigan: A 6-year-old girl was bitten on the finger by a “pet” Java macaque who was being walked on a leash near the church where the girl was playing. The girl had to undergo several tests as a result of the bite, and the monkey was expected to be euthanized.

April 5, 2008/Addison, Texas: Two lemurs at the Trager Snake Farm were quarantined after biting or scratching a child.

March 21, 2008/Fresno, California: A black-and-white colobus monkey escaped from an enclosure at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. The eastern portion of the zoo was closed to the public as zoo staff members attempted to recapture the monkey. Two and a half hours after the escape, he was shot with a tranquilizer dart and taken to the zoo hospital to recover.

March 14, 2008/Virginia: A 6-year-old chimpanzee named Mikey, taken by Party Safari Zoo to a studio to appear in a commercial, injured a woman by biting and/or scratching her face and shoulder. Mikey had bitten another woman five months earlier [see October 23, 2007].

March 2008/New Albany, Indiana: A child visiting a home was bitten by the owner’s “pet” capuchin monkey. The monkey was quarantined while county officials worked to obtain information about the animal’s health.

February 29, 2008/Gilbert, Arizona: A 3-year-old boy was bitten on the wrist by his family’s “pet” lemur. According to a local official, the emergency crew that responded to the incident reported that the bite was down to the bone. The boy was taken to a hospital for treatment.

February 28, 2008/Spokane, Washington: A “pet” macaque monkey who escaped from his owners’ home chased some boys who were walking a dog and bit one of the boys on the thumb; charged at a woman, grabbed her leg, and bit it; and bit an 18-year-old girl on the leg. The monkey was quarantined to be monitored for disease and ultimately euthanized to be tested for rabies.

December 2, 2007/Rutherford College, North Carolina: A grocery store clerk was bitten by a customer’s 18-inch-tall “pet” monkey when she reached out to pet the animal. The monkey bit and scratched her right cheek just below the eye. The victim was treated at a local hospital for the bite and put on strong antibiotics.

November 8, 2007/Columbia County, Georgia: A 17-month-old boy was bitten by a baboon with the Eudora Farms petting zoo at the Columbia County Fair. The boy’s father lifted him to feed the animal through the cage and the baboon bit the child’s hand.

November 6, 2007/Dripping Springs, Texas: A worker at Sunrise Exotic Ranch, a chimpanzee-breeding facility, was bitten by a chimpanzee named Ginny while she was handing blankets to the animals through a feeding tray. Ginny reached through a rusted hole in the tray and grabbed the worker’s hand. When the woman was able to pull her hand out of the cage, one of her fingers was gone and two others were nearly severed. After multiple surgeries, including transplants and skin grafts, her hand is still disfigured and curls into a ball. The victim amassed more than \$100,000 in medical bills.

October 23, 2007/Maryland: A 5½ -year-old chimpanzee named Mikey, taken by Party Safari Zoo to a studio to appear in a commercial, bit a woman’s arm while posing for photographs with studio employees.

September 28, 2007/Dallas, Texas: An elderly spider monkey escaped the enclosure she shared with two other monkeys at the Dallas Zoo. The monkey was loose for approximately 20 minutes.

September 22, 2007/Columbia, Missouri: A woman known for carrying her “pet” rhesus macaque into stores and to public events took the animal to a local park where the macaque bit a 7-year-old boy and an 11-year-old girl. The woman quickly left the park and was sought by local health officials for questioning.

August 13, 2007/Tupelo, Mississippi: For the second time in two weeks, a white-faced capuchin monkey named Oliver escaped from the Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo. He was found the following day, approximately 4 miles from the park, and returned to the zoo. One man was bitten on the hand during the attempt to capture Oliver. This was Oliver’s third escape [See July 31, 2007 and 2001].

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August 8, 2007/Madison, Wisconsin: A 1-year-old “pet” capuchin monkey bit a 21-year-old woman on the thumb at a beer garden and then eluded police for an hour before being recaptured. The monkey was declared dangerous by the Madison Environmental Health Services Department and was quarantined to be monitored for disease, and the owner was ordered to remove the animal from the city upon release from quarantine. The monkey had previously bitten at least one other person [see July 11, 2007].

July 31, 2007/Tupelo, Mississippi: A capuchin monkey named Oliver escaped from a cage at Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo and eluded capture for nearly a week before being recaptured. Zoo staff warned the public that Oliver would bite. This was Oliver’s second escape [see 2001].

July 11, 2007/Madison, Wisconsin: A “pet” capuchin monkey was placed under home quarantine after biting someone.

June 30, 2007/Cherokee, North Carolina: A capuchin monkey at Santa’s Land theme park escaped from the island where the monkeys were kept and was loose overnight before being recaptured the next evening. It was believed that the animal used low-hanging tree limbs to scale the wall and the high-voltage wire that surrounded the island.

June 5, 2007/Rockwell, North Carolina: A colobus monkey escaped from an enclosure at the Metrolina Wildlife Park by running past a worker as she entered the cage. The monkey was chased around the zoo grounds by the zoo owner before being recaptured.

April 24, 2007/Rankin County, Mississippi: A “pet” macaque monkey attacked an IRS agent. Although the monkey’s canine teeth had been removed, the agent sustained bites and scratches on her face and arms.

April 8, 2007/Otis, Oregon: A 12 year-old “pet” capuchin monkey escaped from a cage, ran through the neighborhood, attempted to attack residents, and cornered one man in his garage before being recaptured.

2007/Olmsted Falls, Ohio: A girl was scratched by a rhesus macaque at Burnette’s Pet Farm. According to Inspector Stacey Short of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, 80 to 90 percent of macaque monkeys carry the Herpes Simian B virus, a disease that can be spread through scratches and is almost always fatal to humans.

December 25, 2006/French Settlement, Louisiana: An 8-year-old boy was bitten twice on the arm and shoulder and suffered cuts and bruises when a “pet” ringtail lemur leapt from a roof and attacked him. The lemur was kept on a large estate, where the animal roamed freely and could not be located after the attack. The boy underwent four rounds of injections to prevent rabies and more than two weeks after the incident still had a fever and periodic headaches.

December 1, 2006/Nahunta, North Carolina: A “pet” Japanese macaque belonging to Frankie Piscopo escaped from Piscopo’s home and was on the loose for almost two months before being recaptured more than 11 miles away.

October 28, 2006/Marquette County, Wisconsin: A woman was taken to the hospital after being bitten by a lemur at an exotic animal farm.

September 22, 2006/Horn Lake, Mississippi: A “pet” bonnet macaque knocked out the window frame of a cage and escaped into the neighborhood. He ran for one and a half blocks and attacked an animal control officer before being recaptured.

August 28, 2006/Chicago, Illinois: A 15-year-old girl was hospitalized in serious condition after being attacked by a “pet” rhesus macaque monkey. The girl’s arm was reportedly “bitten to the bone.” The agitated monkey attempted to escape from the house as animal control officers worked to recapture him.

June 1, 2006/ Naples, Florida: A mustached guenon at the Naples Zoo swam from the island where she and a male companion were housed and escaped to a wooded area of the zoo.

March 8, 2006/Bell County, Texas: A person bitten by a “pet” rhesus macaque was taken to the hospital for treatment. The monkey was killed to be tested for rabies.

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February 3, 2006/Columbus, Ohio: A zookeeper at the Columbus Zoo was bitten while feeding a grape to an adult bonobo, also known as a "pygmy chimpanzee." The zookeeper lost the tip of her finger and was treated at a hospital. All the zoo's bonobos were isolated for 14 days to be monitored for health issues.

December 29, 2005/unknown location: A capuchin monkey who was being exhibited by Patricia Dawdy bit and/or scratched an 8-year-old boy, causing one or more injuries that required ongoing medical attention.

December 1, 2005/Covington, Kentucky: A "pet" monkey escaped and led authorities on a two-day chase through the neighborhood before being recaptured. A primate expert was concerned that the animal might suffer from frostbite while on the loose, and an animal control officer noted that the animal appeared to suffer from a cough. A monkey had been loose on the same block one year earlier.

November 14, 2005/Arizona: Several children were attacked and two were bitten when a "pet" monkey escaped from a cage and tore through a neighbor's birthday party.

October 6, 2005/Eureka, California: Bill, the solitary chimpanzee at the Sequoia Park Zoo, escaped from a cage and wandered one and a half blocks from the zoo before it was discovered that he was missing. Bill was coaxed back to the cage by one of the zookeepers. This was Bill's second escape from the zoo—about 10 years previously, the door to Bill's cage was left open and he wandered off.

September 10, 2005/Royal, Nebraska: Workers at Zoo Nebraska failed to properly lock a chimpanzee cage after cleaning, and all four animals in the cage made a break for freedom. The chimpanzees confronted zoo visitors, and at least one of the animals—possibly all four—walked into the town of Royal, where they attempted to enter businesses and where one chimp allegedly chased a 15-year-old boy into his home and another threw a grill at a van. When the animals tried to enter the building where zoo visitors and employees had taken refuge, three of the four chimpanzees were shot and killed. The surviving chimpanzee was transferred to an exotic-animal dealer in Missouri.

August 29, 2005/Springdale, Ohio: A monkey with the Hendricks Bros. Circus was frightened by a train whistle and fled into a nearby wooded area. He was found the next day, damp and hungry, huddled in the roof area of a picnic pavilion at a park.

August 27, 2005/San Antonio, Texas: A young chimpanzee escaped through a hole in the chain-link fencing of a cage at Primarily Primates, where many of the cages for the more than 600 primates were secured with only a small piece of wire.

July 20, 2005/Racine, Wisconsin: Max, a 19-year-old orangutan at the Racine Zoo, escaped into a hallway that connected to other zoo exhibits and three hours later was lured back to a cage with food.

July 11, 2005/Caldwell, Ohio: Two "pet" monkeys belonging to Hollis McIntiurff escaped their cage. One was recaptured after running loose for several hours. The second, a rhesus macaque, attacked a 20-year-old man who stopped his truck in order to avoid hitting the monkey on the road. The monkey jumped in the truck and bit him on the leg. The man was treated at a hospital and received a tetanus shot. Ten days after escaping, the monkey remained on the loose.

July 5, 2005/Chicago, Illinois: A 350-pound male silverback gorilla attacked an intern working in a habitat at the Lincoln Park Zoo. The gorilla shoved the woman down and "mouthed" her, pressing his lips and teeth against her back. She sustained puncture wounds and scratches as well as a sprained ankle and was treated by paramedics before being taken to the hospital.

June 2005/Morehead, Kentucky: A monkey reached through a car window and grabbed and bit a clerk's hand at the drive-thru window of a Viking BP Mart while his owner, Jamie Dehart, was picking up an order.

May 7, 2005/Huntington, West Virginia: A leashed "pet" monkey who had been taken to a shopping center bit a 13-year-old girl in the parking lot. A woman holding the leash had indicated that the animal was friendly, but when the girl and her father approached to pet the monkey, the monkey jumped on the girl's leg and bit her kneecap and finger. She was treated at a hospital.

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March 3, 2005/Calierte, California: Four adult chimpanzees escaped from their cage at Animal Haven Ranch. The two male chimpanzees attacked a couple who were visiting their "pet" chimpanzee at the facility. The woman's thumb was bitten off and her husband was severely mauled. The chimpanzees bit off his nose, an eye, part of his cheek, lips, most of his fingers, both testicles and much of the flesh from his buttocks, face, and left foot. According to a medic at the scene, "His face was gone." The chimpanzees who attacked, both former "show biz" chimps raised at Bob Dunn's Animal Services, were shot and killed. The gunfire frightened the two female chimpanzees who ran into the hills and were on the loose for several hours before being recaptured. Three months and a dozen surgeries later, the man was pulled out of a medically induced coma.

December 9, 2004/Detroit, Michigan: A student was bitten by a cinnamon-ring tail cebus monkey at a wildlife show-and-tell at Wayne State University. The monkey was part of a menagerie brought by the Chicago-based Bill Hoffman's Animal Rentals.

November 26, 2004/Evansville, Indiana: An ambulance was called to the Hadi Shrine Circus at Roberts Stadium after a circusgoer was bitten on the cheek by a chimpanzee belonging to by Zoppe-Rosaire Chimpanzees while posing for pictures. The patron was treated at the hospital for a puncture wound.

November 12, 2004/Palm Springs, California: A 16-year-old chimpanzee from Dan Westfall's private menagerie escaped and ran loose in a residential neighborhood, banging on windows and pounding on doors. Police steered him back to Westfall's home.

October 14, 2004/Fresno, California: The Chaffee Zoo evacuated visitors after an orangutan unraveled the netting on a cage and crawled out. She was loose for 10 minutes.

October 9, 2004/Gentry, Arkansas: A woman feeding animals at the Wild Wilderness Drive-Thru Safari was bitten by a chimpanzee who reached through the bars of the cage, grabbed her, and bit off much of her hand, including two fingers.

August 1, 2004/Brooklyn, New York: A 5-year-old macaque, used as a so-called "service animal," attacked and bit a 2-year-old boy being wheeled by his grandparents in a shopping cart at a grocery store.

July 14, 2004/St. Louis, Missouri: A zookeeper at the Saint Louis Zoo was taken to the hospital after she was bitten by an orangutan while feeding the animal.

July 6, 2004/St. Charles, Minnesota: Two people agreed to undergo a series of rabies shots after they were bitten by a capuchin monkey who escaped from the Staples Safari Zoo during an appearance at the Winona County fairgrounds. The monkey was quarantined for 28 days.

May 26, 2004/Rochester, New York: A baboon at the Seneca Park Zoo escaped from a cage and climbed into nearby trees before he was tranquilized.

March 18, 2004/Dallas, Texas: A 300-pound gorilla named Jabari escaped from an enclosure surrounded by a 16-foot concave wall at the Dallas Zoo and attacked four people. A 3-year-old boy was critically injured as a result of multiple bites to his head and chest. The gorilla bit the boy's mother on her legs and threw her and the toddler against the wall. Another woman suffered injuries to her arms when she shielded several children from the gorilla. The fourth injured person was a child who was treated at the scene. Police evacuated 300 people and fatally shot the gorilla after he charged at officers. Some children had reportedly been teasing Jabari before the incident.

January 19, 2004/Los Angeles, California: The Los Angeles Zoo evacuated 9,000 visitors after an 80-pound chimpanzee named Gracie escaped from the enclosure for the fifth time. She was loose for 45 minutes before being tranquilized and captured.

January 8, 2004/Denver, Colorado: A gorilla named Evelyn escaped from an enclosure at the Denver Zoo and entered the keepers' area, where she spent 45 minutes before being tranquilized. Evelyn was originally from the Los Angeles Zoo and had escaped several times while at that facility.

December 27, 2003/St. Leonard, Maryland: A man was taken to the hospital for treatment after being bitten on the thumb by a pigtailed macaque who was being kept as a house "pet."

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October 30, 2003/Savannah, Georgia: Exhibitor Brian Staples was cited by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the escape of a spider monkey at the Georgia Coastal Fair. The monkey ran through the fair midway, a public area, before being recaptured.

October 19, 2003/Stamford, Connecticut: A 170-pound “pet” chimpanzee bolted from his owner’s sport utility vehicle in a busy downtown street. A dozen police cruisers were called to the scene as the chimpanzee charged officers and the crowds. He was recaptured two hours later.

September 28, 2003/Boston, Massachusetts: A gorilla named Little Joe escaped from an enclosure in Boston’s Franklin Park Zoo, grabbed a toddler from a young woman’s arms, then threw the child to the ground and jumped on her. Little Joe led more than 50 police officers and zoo staff members on a massive two-hour chase through darkened woods and along a nearby street outside the zoo. He finally collapsed after being shot repeatedly with tranquilizer darts and was returned to the zoo. The toddler required several stitches for a gash in her head. The gorilla also bit a zoo visitor on the back and attempted to attack other zoo staff members who were huddled in fear inside the ticket booth. Little Joe had also escaped during the previous month.

August 26, 2003/Rochester, New York: The Seneca Park Zoo evacuated visitors after a 300-pound orangutan escaped from a cage. During his 15-minute escape, the orangutan picked up a zoo volunteer, carried him into the cage, then pushed him back out.

August 13, 2003/Boston, Massachusetts: Little Joe, a gorilla at Boston’s Franklin Park Zoo, scaled a 20-foot rock wall and escaped from the ape enclosure. He was recaptured 10 minutes later.

August 8, 2003/Chicago, Illinois: A “pet” monkey who escaped from her home was chased for much of the day by police and animal control officers before being cornered in a stairwell and captured in a net. An animal control officer was bitten by the monkey during the capture.

July 11, 2003/Southborough, Massachusetts: A squirrel monkey escaped from the New England Primate Research Center and was found 17 days later having been struck and killed on a road 10 miles away.

May 3, 2003/Fountain Hills, Arizona: A “pet” capuchin monkey broke out of a cage, turned the key on the front door, and took off on a three-day rampage. He was spotted by neighbors in the trees, in garages, and inside several cars.

April 19, 2003/Green Bay, Wisconsin: A “pet” capuchin monkey purchased on the Internet escaped when the owner brought him, perched on her shoulder, into a tavern.

September 10, 2002/Northwest Montana: A “pet” macaque taken to malls bit at least three people. One incident occurred at a restaurant, a second at a fruit stand, and a third at the owner’s residence. The monkey was quarantined and two victims went for medical treatment.

September 8, 2002/Hillsboro, Oregon: A female rhesus macaque escaped from the Oregon National Primate Research Center while being transferred between buildings. Police warned area residents not to approach the animal. She was recaptured two days later.

August 7, 2002/Racine, Minnesota: A volunteer at BEARCAT Hollow animal park was attacked by a monkey as she entered the cage. The monkey grabbed her hair and bit her on the finger. The volunteer needed five stitches and rabies shots.

August 4, 2002/Davenport, Iowa: A monkey with the Texas-based Gerald Eppel’s Monkey Business act performing at the Mississippi Valley Fair went berserk and jumped on a woman, hitting her head and biting her as she posed for a photograph. The woman filed a \$5,000 lawsuit against the fair and the animal exhibitor.

June 23, 2002/Magnolia, Texas: A “pet” Java macaque attacked and bit a 9-year-old boy and a woman and severely scratched a firefighter, sending all three to the hospital for treatment.

May 13, 2002/Frankfort, Indiana: A lemur jumped on and scratched a keeper’s arm as she retrieved a food dish from a cage at a petting zoo at the TPA park. The keeper needed seven stitches in her arm and the monkey was quarantined.

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April 3, 2002/Honolulu, Hawaii: A Honolulu Zoo employee was attacked by a Siamang gibbon as she cleaned the animal's sleeping area. The woman suffered cuts and bites to both legs and received 45 stitches.

January 10, 2002/Knox County, Tennessee: A "pet" Japanese snow macaque escaped from a backyard cage and attacked a neighbor, biting his back and hand.

November 23, 2001/Cleveland, Ohio: A "pet" capuchin monkey who had been taken to a restaurant attacked, bit, and scratched a patron, inflicting 16 puncture wounds. A subsequent lawsuit seeking more than \$25,000 in damages for injuries and anxiety described the monkey as mischievous, ferocious, and/or vicious.

September 10, 2001/Danville, New Hampshire: A search party was organized after at least 10 monkey sightings were reported, including by the fire chief. The monkey, believed to be an escaped "pet," was seen running across streets and into bushes and was described as being 8 feet long from his tail to his hands. Experts feared that the monkey would perish if not captured before winter.

July 27, 2001/Martinsburg, West Virginia: A "pet" monkey kept in a trailer park, believed to be a rhesus macaque, escaped and bit two children and a teenager. The bite victims underwent testing for herpes, tuberculosis, HIV, and other conditions.

June 14, 2001/Seattle, Washington: Woodland Park Zoo officials euthanized a 20-year-old lion-tailed macaque who tested positive for the herpes B virus.

June 9, 2001/Omaha, Nebraska: A squirrel monkey roaming freely and mingling with zoo visitors in an exhibit at Henry Doorly Zoo bit a woman's finger, causing an infection, after she offered the animal a cookie.

May 12, 2001/Lakeland, Florida: Health officials searched in vain for a woman who brought a "pet" monkey on a leash to a festival after the monkey bit and scratched a man on the arm. The man was treated for herpes B for fear that he might have contracted the deadly virus.

April 22, 2001/Ventura, California: According to a Ventura County Animal Bite Record, a 2½-year-old male chimpanzee named Mr. P belonging to Sid Yost's Amazing Animal Actors was ordered to be quarantined for 30 days after lunging at and biting a 12-year-old boy on the left hand.

April 19, 2001/Jefferson County, Missouri: Three chimpanzees with Chimparty, a company owned by Connie and Mike Casey that supplies primates for parties and TV commercials, escaped from an unlocked cage. A teenage boy shot and killed one of the chimpanzees.

February 4, 2001/Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: A crowd of 250 people cowered for 45 minutes inside a building at the Pittsburgh Zoo & Aquarium after a 150-pound female gorilla crossed a moat, scaled a 14-foot wall, and began to wander around the zoo. Zookeepers lured the gorilla into a restroom and tranquilized her.

January 30, 2001/Las Vegas, Nevada: A 1-year-old female chimpanzee named C.J., belonging to Monica Riddell's Xotic Stars of Las Vegas, bit a person on the finger during public exhibition.

2001/Tupelo, Mississippi: A capuchin monkey named Oliver escaped and ran amok on the grounds of Tupelo Country Club before being captured and returned to the Tupelo Buffalo Park and Zoo.

December 2, 2000/Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: A 5-year-old "pet" capuchin, who was taken on a shopping trip to Home Depot, attacked and bit a teenage shopper on the leg.

September 29, 2000/Tulsa, Oklahoma: A 4-year-old girl required hospital treatment after she was bitten or scratched on the cheek by a monkey who had been brought to a motel.

September 25, 2000/Maryville, Tennessee: A girl was treated at a hospital for a bite wound to her arm inflicted by her stepfather's "pet" Japanese snow macaque.

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September 23, 2000/Jarratt, Virginia: Three escaped monkeys threw fruit at vehicles traveling the interstate. After police arrived at the scene, the monkeys dashed across the interstate and disappeared into the woods.

August 29, 2000/Washington, D.C.: A 260-pound orangutan named Junior climbed down a tower at the National Zoo and wandered the zoo grounds for 45 minutes while nearly 100 zoo visitors were herded into buildings. He was shot with a tranquilizer dart and recaptured.

August 15, 2000/Sprague, West Virginia: A “pet” chimpanzee escaped from a cage for three hours, biting a teenager on the hand and biting a neighbor who had tried to restrain the 150-pound animal. The same chimpanzee had escaped in July 1998 and attacked a postal truck, forcing the driver to flee and causing the truck to crash.

August 12, 2000/Jessamine County, Kentucky: A woman who was eight months pregnant was hospitalized after one of her two “pet” rhesus macaques suddenly turned violent while a cage was being cleaned and bit the woman’s nose. The woman was given an anti-viral medication, which was a hazard to her pregnancy, in case the monkey tested positive for herpes B. She had been inspired to purchase “pet” monkeys when, as a child, she saw monkeys riding bicycles in a circus.

August 8, 2000/San Angelo, Texas: A capuchin “went crazy” and bit his owner. The owner shot the monkey seven or eight times, killing him. This is the same monkey who bit a neighbor on January 9, 1998.

August 3, 2000/Southwest Ranches, Florida: A “pet” spider monkey escaped from a cage and attacked two teenage girls. The girls were treated at the hospital for scratch and bite wounds to their faces, heads, and arms. The monkey was captured the next day. The same monkey had attacked a woman six months earlier.

August 1, 2000/Dover, Wisconsin: A “pet” Japanese macaque got loose and attacked two people. The monkey grabbed a neighbor around the waist and inflicted four bite wounds to the leg. Moments later, the monkey bit a postal carrier on the hand. The monkey was captured and killed.

July 24, 2000/Dallas, Texas: A chimpanzee was electrocuted after escaping from a habitat at the Dallas Zoo. She scratched a zookeeper, who required hospital treatment, and climbed a telephone pole. The zookeeper fired at the great ape with a shotgun, and a veterinarian fired a tranquilizer at the animal, causing her to fall. She was electrocuted as she grabbed for a power line.

July 18, 2000/Jefferson City, Missouri: A 7-year-old boy, riding his bicycle, was attacked by a neighbor’s “pet” rhesus macaque, who jumped from a tree and bit the boy’s arm. The child was subjected to a two-month ordeal involving doctors, needles, tests, and the fear of contracting the deadly herpes virus. The boy later received a \$148,000 settlement from a lawsuit filed by his family.

July 2000/Los Angeles, California: Jim, a 350-pound 12-year-old gorilla, jumped across the 12-foot moat in an exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo. He started to walk toward a group of schoolchildren and was squirted with water to steer him into another enclosure.

June 1, 2000/Columbia, Maryland: An escaped 2½-foot-tall spider monkey chased a woman who had just stepped outside her home and bit her on the thigh, then ran away.

May 31, 2000/Pensacola, Florida: An orangutan at The Zoo escaped from an unlocked cage and attacked a zookeeper. The keeper was treated at a hospital for bruises and five bite wounds. The orangutan was lured back to the cage 45 minutes later with food.

May 2000/Tulsa, Oklahoma: A monkey bit a boy in a pet store.

April 9, 2000/Franklin, Tennessee: A chimpanzee named Angel, brought by Sid Yost (also known as Ranger Rick Kelly) to Blockbuster Video for photo ops and to promote a Critter Gitter movie, fiercely bit a 9-year-old girl on the hand after posing for a photograph. The girl’s hand swelled and required stitches. Yost left the state before the chimpanzee could be quarantined and was issued a citation for violating Tennessee’s exotic animal law. Yost failed to show up in court and never paid the fine. The girl’s parents filed a \$50,000 lawsuit against Yost, Critter Gitters, and Blockbuster, claiming that the defendants should have been aware of the danger inherent in subjecting Angel to a crowded area with so many children. None of the parties named in the lawsuit offered to pay for medical expenses.

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February 13, 2000/Lansing, Illinois: A “pet” Java macaque attacked his owner, inflicting 6-inch-deep bites and cuts on her head, arms, and legs and causing her to lose 1½ pints of blood. She underwent three hours of surgery and 12 weeks of physical therapy. The monkey was killed for rabies tests.

January 14, 2000/Palm Harbor, Florida: A “pet” spider monkey escaped from a backyard cage and attacked a dog who was being walked by a neighbor. The dog went into shock and suffered serious artery and tendon damage.

2000/Jackson County, Missouri: Mark Archigo’s adult “pet” chimpanzee, Sueko, injured a teenage girl by lifting her by the ankles and tossing her to the ground.

December 28, 1999/Des Moines, Iowa: A rhesus macaque found wandering the streets on November 23, 1999, bit an animal control officer.

December 15, 1999/Rancho Bernardo, California: An escaped 3-foot-tall spider monkey led police on a two-hour chase, frightened residents, and bit a police officer.

November 1, 1999/Euless, Texas: A “pet” capuchin monkey attacked and bit an elderly woman.

October 4, 1999/Evansville, Indiana: A child was bitten on his finger by a macaque at Mesker Park Zoo. Two of the zoo’s six macaque monkeys selected at random tested positive for the herpes B virus.

September 1, 1999/West Covina, California: A “pet” chimpanzee bit off the fingertip of a woman visiting the owner’s home. This is the same chimpanzee who attacked four people on August 19, 1998.

August 5, 1999/Bellevue, Nebraska: A police officer was sent to the hospital after a macaque with a history of biting people bit him on the leg.

July 31, 1999/Kissimmee, Florida: A “pet” capuchin escaped and attacked a boy, scratching his leg. The monkey bit one police officer on the leg and pulled the hair of another before he was recaptured.

June 20, 1999/Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: An orangutan at the Philadelphia Zoo escaped from the exhibit he was in and ran loose in the zoo for 25 minutes before he was tranquilized by a veterinarian.

May 11, 1999/Idaho Falls, Idaho: A woman went to the hospital after a caged “pet” monkey bit her.

April 15, 1999/Punta Gorda Isles, Florida: A police officer used a 12-gauge shotgun to shoot and kill a 2-foot-tall rhesus macaque. The monkey had been running loose and acting aggressively toward residents for a month.

April 1, 1999/Glen Burnie, Maryland: A 2-year-old Bonnet macaque bit a woman on the lip at a tavern, touching off a brawl in which two other people were bitten. Animal control had instances on file in which seven other people had been bitten or scratched by the 9-pound “pet” monkey. The owners ignored animal control orders not to take the monkey out in public. One of the injured parties filed a \$25,000 lawsuit.

February 27, 1999/Salt Lake City, Utah: Chip, Happy, and Tammy, chimpanzees at Hogle Zoo, escaped from a cage and attacked two zoo staff members. One employee, who was in serious condition, was hospitalized for nearly four weeks after one finger, part of a second finger, and part of his nose were bitten off. His left ear was also partially severed, and he suffered severe lacerations on his face, head, arms, and chest. A second employee was treated for cuts and scrapes. Chip and Happy were shot with shotguns by zoo employees and later euthanized. The USDA issued an official warning against the zoo for failure to securely contain primates. The zoo later settled a lawsuit brought by the seriously injured employee.

January 13, 1999/Hillsborough, Florida: A “pet” capuchin attacked her owner, biting her 50 times on the hands and legs.

December 7, 1998/Kansas City, Missouri: A male orangutan named Joe used a tire to climb over the wall of an outdoor pen and escape from an exhibit at the Kansas City Zoo. Zoo visitors noticed him after he made his way to the sheep barn. He was tranquilized and recaptured.

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November 28, 1998/Dallas, Texas: A 340-pound gorilla named Hercules escaped from an open cage at the Dallas Zoo and attacked a zookeeper, dragging her down a hallway and biting her on her arm and side. Hercules was shot with a tranquilizer dart, and the zookeeper was hospitalized. The USDA fined the zoo \$25,000 for alleged violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act.

November 1, 1998/Eules, Texas: A spider monkey bit a student at an elementary school.

October 4, 1998/Slidell, Louisiana: An escaped “pet” vervet ran wild in a house, knocking over a lamp and attacking two women, biting one on the arm and slashing the legs of another with teeth and claws. A police officer who responded to the frantic 911 call was also attacked. The monkey threw a picture frame at him, then jumped on him and bit him. Both women needed stitches. The monkey was killed.

August 19, 1998/West Covina, California: A “pet” chimpanzee escaped from a cage and went berserk, biting four people and denting a police car with his fists during a three-hour rampage. One officer required three surgeries on his hand at a cost of \$250,000.

July 6, 1998/Sprague, West Virginia: A “pet” chimpanzee escaped from an enclosure and attacked a postal truck, forcing the driver to flee and causing the truck to crash.

May 1, 1998/Wichita, Kansas: A macaque bit a child and a teenager at a store during a promotional event.

April 13, 1998/Atlanta, Georgia: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that four lab workers who handled monkeys had become infected with monkey viruses.

January 28, 1998/Los Angeles, California: An employee was bitten by an orangutan at the Los Angeles Zoo. As the keeper stooped down to speak to the animal, she held onto the chain-link fence between them. The orangutan grabbed her finger and bit the tip, which subsequently required amputation.

January 9, 1998/San Angelo, Texas: A “pet” capuchin bit a 19-year-old neighbor man, who underwent rabies shots.

January 5, 1998/Madison, Wisconsin: Henry Vilas Zoo announced that its 150 macaques had been exposed to herpes B. One-third of them were infectious carriers and were considered to pose a public health risk.

December 28, 1997/Charlotte County, Florida: A 6-year-old visiting Octagon Exotics was attacked by a caged baboon, who pulled out chunks of her hair and attempted to bite her.

December 10, 1997/Atlanta, Georgia: A Yerkes primate researcher died of herpes B after she was splashed in the eye with bodily fluids from a rhesus macaque.

October 6, 1997/South Barrington, Illinois: A baboon at a petting zoo bit a 4-year-old girl.

August 15, 1997/Elburn, Illinois: A baboon with a traveling zoo scratched a 15-year-old girl’s leg during a parade.

August 8, 1997/Hartford, Connecticut: A “pet” Java macaque got away while being taken for a walk and attacked an elderly neighbor woman, grabbing her hair and biting her arm.

July 12, 1997/Glen Burnie, Maryland: A 6-year-old girl who had been bitten in the face by a “pet” bonnet macaque while at a carnival was treated at a nearby hospital for her wound and received six shots to her face, arms, and legs.

July 7, 1997/Bridgton, Maine: State game wardens seized a “pet” squirrel monkey after the animal bit and scratched a woman standing in a supermarket checkout line.

June 29, 1997/Bourbonnais, Illinois: A vervet with a traveling zoo bit a 3-year-old girl in the face at a festival.

May 27, 1997/Little Rock, Arkansas: A 375-pound gorilla named Rocky and a 180-pound gorilla named Tammy escaped from a cage and entered a work area at the Little Rock Zoo.

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April 24, 1997/Rockwell, North Carolina: A chimpanzee named Sydney pried back a steel bar on a cage and escaped from the Charlotte Metro Zoo, scaring neighbors as he roamed free for a week. Animal control officers spent 115 hours searching for the great ape. Sydney was finally captured in a neighbor's yard and taken back to the zoo, but as he was being returned to the cage, he broke free and bit a television news camera operator twice on the arm. The bite went through the man's wrist to the bone, severing tendons and damaging nerves; the photographer was permanently injured and suffered excruciating pain for a year.

March 1, 1997/Houston, Texas: An 8-year-old capuchin turned on his owner and nearly killed her, severing her thumb and part of her index finger and slicing her legs.

September 28, 1996/Los Angeles, California: Actor Elizabeth Hurley reeled back in shock when she was bitten on the ear by a chimpanzee while appearing on Jay Leno's *Tonight Show*.

September 22, 1996/Palm Beach, Florida: A pigtailed macaque who tested positive for herpes B bit a 4-year-old girl on the shoulder while he was being taken for a walk. The "pet" monkey had been kissed and held by hundreds of people. Authorities confiscated the animal.

May 18, 1996/Staten Island, New York: Four heavily armed emergency service police officers chased a capuchin monkey through a residential neighborhood for 45 minutes. The monkey escaped, fleeing into woods near the Staten Island mall.

April 6, 1996/Alice, Texas: Two monkeys imported into a research facility were infected with the deadly Ebola virus. One monkey died and the other was killed.

March 24, 1996/Gainesville, Florida: Residents were warned not to catch, feed, or touch a rhesus macaque who had been exposed to the herpes B virus. The macaque had escaped from a research farm.

February 28, 1996/Metairie, Louisiana: A "pet" vervet was impounded after biting an animal control officer during a home inspection. The monkey had earlier scratched the owner's 2-year-old son.

February 12, 1996/Tulsa, Oklahoma: Six chimpanzees at the Tulsa Zoo escaped by scaling a wall, forcing an evacuation of the zoo that lasted five hours.

February 1, 1996/Bridgton, Maine: The same squirrel monkey who attacked a woman on July 7, 1997, in a supermarket bit a child during a school demonstration.

1996/Stamford, Connecticut: Sandra Herold's "pet" chimpanzee named Travis bit a woman and tried to pull her into a car. The woman had to get rabies shots.

November 14, 1995/Acadiana, Louisiana: A zoo worker at the Zoo of Acadiana was viciously attacked and bitten on the leg by a monkey who escaped during a medical exam. The employee was off work for several days with an infected leg.

September 8, 1995/Royal Oak, Michigan: The owner of a 3-year-old spider monkey received 17 stitches in his lower lip after the monkey attacked him.

July 16, 1995/Los Angeles, California: A Los Angeles Zoo volunteer was placing popcorn in the monkey exhibit when a monkey mauled her. She sustained lacerations, puncture wounds, and deep cuts, leaving her disfigured and permanently disabled. A lawsuit was filed against the zoo.

June 3, 1995/Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania: An escaped "pet" monkey grabbed a kitchen knife and cigarette lighter, holding police at bay for nearly two hours. The monkey ran through the house and bit two women. Animal control caught the monkey with a snare. The monkey later died in a cage.

April 10, 1995/Asheboro, North Carolina: Tammy, a chimpanzee at the North Carolina Zoological Park, escaped from an enclosure that was surrounded by moats and a 12-foot concrete wall. The zoo was evacuated as Tammy walked around for 20 minutes before being coaxed back to the enclosure.

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January 7, 1995/Baton Rouge, Louisiana: A chimpanzee named Reggie escaped by pulling a wire on a cage at the Baton Rouge Zoo. Reggie was being transferred to another exhibit after he had been attacked and injured by another chimp. He was tranquilized and recaptured.

January 1, 1995/Kansas City, Missouri: A “pet” chimpanzee bit a 7-year-old girl, causing her to have to undergo rabies treatment. Authorities had received numerous complaints that the chimpanzee ran loose and had attacked several people.

1995/Kansas City, Missouri: Mark Archigo’s “pet” chimpanzee, Sueko, was taken into custody by Kansas City animal control officials after they investigated reports that she had bitten humans.

November 30, 1994/Boca Raton, Florida: A 5-inch “pet” marmoset, smuggled into a restaurant in a bag, escaped and bit a diner on the ear.

November 11, 1994/San Francisco, California: The San Francisco Zoo alerted area residents to be on the watch for an escaped patas monkey.

Fall of 1994/Festus, Missouri: A chimpanzee escaped from James Michael “Mike” and Connie Casey’s chimpanzee breeding compound and attacked a dog before entering a home in which four adults and three children were sitting on a couch looking at photos. The chimpanzee grabbed a 2-year-old girl by her ponytail and dragged her across the floor. A man who attempted to retrieve the girl from the chimpanzee resorted to beating the animal on the head with a skillet. The man and the girl were both scratched and bruised and treated at the hospital.

August 20, 1994/Tulane, Louisiana: Residents began calling authorities after spotting monkeys near their homes. The monkeys were among 28 pigtailed macaques who had escaped from the Delta Regional Primate Research Center.

August 9, 1994/Surprise, Arizona: A 4-year-old boy developed an eye infection after being bitten and scratched by two macaques. The boy’s mother had obtained the monkeys as “pets” three weeks earlier.

August 2, 1994/Knoxville, Tennessee: Residents were warned that an escaped “pet” spider monkey might bite. The animal got loose in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

August 2, 1994/New Smyrna Beach, Florida: Five Japanese macaques donated to Ashby Acres Wildlife Park by the Pittsburgh Zoo were found to be infected with herpes B.

June 30, 1994/Phoenix, Arizona: A “pet” Java macaque escaped from a backyard cage and ran throughout a residential neighborhood for 17 hours before he was recaptured.

May 13, 1994/St. Paul, Minnesota: Casey, a 400-pound gorilla, scaled a 15-foot concrete wall and wandered around the Como Zoo for 45 minutes while a group of kindergarten students were ushered to safety. Casey was shot with a tranquilizer and returned to the enclosure.

February 1, 1994/Kansas City, Missouri: A “pet” chimpanzee jumped on a man and bit him, causing injuries that needed medical treatment.

July 11, 1993/Rolling Meadows, Illinois: A leashed guenon grabbed an 11-year-old girl’s leg and inflicted three bite wounds that required stitches. Animal control had tried unsuccessfully to confiscate the monkey years earlier after police alleged that the animal had bitten several people.

July 9, 1993/Niagara, New York: A man was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital, where he received stitches to close bite wounds from his “pet” patas monkey.

June 18, 1993/San Diego, California: An orangutan named Indah climbed a wall in an enclosure and entered a viewing deck containing about 30 zoo visitors at the San Diego Zoo. Indah was tranquilized and recaptured 30 minutes later.

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May 17, 1993/Seattle, Washington: A 300-pound orangutan named Towan escaped from an enclosure at the Woodland Park Zoo and remained in a holding area. He was recaptured nearly two hours later, after being shot with a tranquilizer dart.

January 21, 1993/Los Angeles, California: Three chimpanzees named Toto, Bonnie, and Gracie escaped from an enclosure at the Los Angeles Zoo by scaling a moat using a rope that had been tossed into the enclosure by a visitor. Frightened zoo visitors fled to safety. Two of the chimpanzees were coaxed back into their cage within 45 minutes, and the third was tranquilized and recaptured.

October 12, 1992/Dripping Springs, Texas: A 180-pound chimpanzee bent the bars of a cage and escaped from Sunrise Exotic Ranch, a chimpanzee-breeding facility. The animal bit a 15-year-old boy and threw a 77-year-old woman to the ground. Sheriff's deputies and an animal control officer returned the chimpanzee to the ranch. The boy was treated for a bite to the hand at a minor emergency clinic, and the elderly woman suffered facial injuries.

September 28, 1992/Bronx, New York: Kongo, a 500-pound gorilla at the Bronx Zoo, escaped while he was being transferred from one cage to another. He bit one keeper on the thigh and a second on the shoulder. Both keepers required hospitalization treatment. The gorilla was tranquilized and dragged back into the cage.

September 28, 1992/Miami, Florida: A 400-pound gorilla named Jimmy at the Miami Metrozoo unlatched a lock on a cage, entered a holding area, and harassed and bit a keeper, who required hospital treatment.

August 24, 1992/Inman, South Carolina: A 78-year-old woman hanging sheets on a clothesline in her backyard was attacked twice by one of three chimpanzees who had escaped from Hollywild Animal Park. The woman was repeatedly knocked to the ground and rolled around by the 100-pound chimp. She was treated for minor injuries at a medical center.

July 15, 1992/New York, New York: A leashed monkey slapped and scratched a subway clerk on the head when a man attempted to bring him into the subway station.

July 6, 1992/Miami, Florida: Police warned area residents of rogue rhesus and Java macaques who had bitten a toddler, attacked a police officer, and terrorized a suburban parking lot. One monkey was shot and killed.

June 22, 1992/San Diego, California: Mema, a 400-pound gorilla, escaped from an enclosure through a door that had been left open at the San Diego Zoo and roamed free for two and a half hours before he was tranquilized.

May 8, 1992/Norcross, Georgia: A 2-year-old squirrel monkey kept in a cage at a pet shop bit a teenager.

March 23, 1992/Los Angeles, California: For the second time in three days, chimpanzees Pandora, Tota, Judeo, Gerrard, and Bonnie used a tree limb to escape from an enclosure at the Los Angeles Zoo. The chimps were recaptured within an hour.

March 21, 1992/Los Angeles, California: Chimpanzees Pandora, Tota, Judeo, and Gerrard used a tree limb to escape from an enclosure at the Los Angeles Zoo. The zoo was closed for an hour while the chimps were recaptured.

February 1, 1992/Fashion Island, California: A man's "pet" monkey bit a woman. The man was accused of trying to sell tiger and lion cubs from the back of a convertible.

1992/Festus, Missouri: James Michael "Mike" Casey was attacked by an adult chimpanzee when he entered a cage at his chimpanzee breeding compound. The chimpanzee grabbed the back of Casey's head, hit him twice on the shoulders, and bit off a good portion of his nose. Casey was treated at a hospital, where his nose had to be reconstructed by grafting part of his forehead onto it.

December 29, 1991/Baton Rouge, Louisiana: An 80-pound chimpanzee named Candi escaped from a local amusement park for an hour, disrupted traffic, and injured two people. She was shot with a tranquilizer gun.

October 24, 1991/Seattle, Washington: Three frightened Woodland Park Zoo volunteers were trapped for 40 minutes in an exhibit with a 300-pound male orangutan named Towan after he, three female orangutans, and a baby

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orangutan escaped from a pen. The volunteers escaped, and the five orangutans climbed onto the roof of the exhibit, where they stayed for two hours before being tranquilized and recaptured. Zoo visitors, including 55 children from a local elementary school, were evacuated.

July 25, 1991/Jefferson, Arkansas: An animal handler filed a \$100 million claim against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services because he allegedly contracted a deadly virus when he was scratched by a macaque while working at the National Center for Toxicological Research.

June 26, 1991/Tampa, Florida: Nearly 100 spectators were evacuated from the Lowry Park Zoo after Rudy, an 80-pound orangutan, scaled the wall of an exhibit, bounded over a ledge, crossed a sidewalk, and climbed to a nearby rooftop during an escape that lasted 10 minutes. Zookeepers coaxed her from the roof.

June 10, 1991/Little Rock, Arkansas: At the Little Rock Zoo, two chimpanzees named Kim and Jodie escaped from a cage through an unlocked door. About 800 zoo visitors had to be evacuated from the premises for an hour.

October 23, 1990/St. Petersburg, Florida: An escaped "pet" capuchin ran into a neighbor's home, grabbed food in the kitchen, darted outside, and bit a woman as she grabbed him.

July 7, 1990/Southeast Portland, Oregon: Two leashed and collared chimpanzees went out of control during a Circus Gatti performance. They dragged the trainer into the stands and pulled a child from her seat and onto the arena floor, then mauled her.

June 6, 1990/Kansas City, Missouri: A 127-pound orangutan named Cheyenne unscrewed four bolts to escape from a cage at the Kansas City Zoo. Visitors screamed as mothers pushed their children in strollers to safety. Cheyenne was tranquilized and taken back to the cage 20 minutes later.

June 1990/Detroit, Michigan: A chimpanzee escaped from an exhibit at the Detroit Zoo. Zoo visitors had to be evacuated from the premises for an hour while staff members attempted to recapture her.

APPENDIX C

LETTER FROM BLAYNE DOYLE TO WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

June 8, 2009

Mr. William Burton
Chair, Legislation Committee
Westchester County Board of Legislators
148 Martine Ave.
White Plains, NY 10601

Dear Mr. Burton:

I wanted to attend the Legislation Committee's meeting on June 22 to offer testimony regarding the public safety risks associated with the public display of dangerous animals in entertainment. My schedule did not allow me to travel to White Plains for this meeting, so I would like to offer this written testimony instead.

My name is Blayne Doyle, and I am a retired Palm Bay, Fla., police officer with more than 34 years of service. I've been shot and stabbed and have been in automobile, motorcycle, and airplane accidents. I've seen more than my share of life-threatening incidents, but I have never seen a situation more frightening—or one that I was less capable of controlling—than the events that unfolded on February 1, 1992, when a small circus came to town. Allow me to explain.

I was on duty and assigned to a post at the circus while Janet, an 8,000-pound Asian elephant, gave rides in the center ring of the circus big top. For reasons unknown to me, Janet went on a rampage while a mother and five children rode on her back. As she ran amok, she also placed 2,500 people inside the circus tent at risk.

Janet ended up attacking her trainer, Tim Frisco, before turning and breaking through the caging that had been placed around the center ring, running into the parking lot of the circus, and driving her head through the side of an aluminum van that she was trying to push across the parking lot. While I was trying to rescue the people from Janet's back, she picked me up with her trunk and threw me through the air about 35 feet. Janet held me down with her front legs and tried to do a headstand on top of me in an attempt to crush me.

Once the people were removed from Janet's back, I called my supervisor and it was determined that, as long as Janet was only destroying circus property, we would take no action. We were authorized to shoot and kill Janet if she moved back toward the public or endangered them. At one point, Janet turned around and started to run back inside the circus tent. It was then that I started shooting Janet in the head. I personally shot her 34 times as she ran back toward the

circus tent. Other officers arrived on the scene and got involved. After officers fired 55 rounds from 9 mm guns (the weapons that police officers normally carry), Janet was actually knocked down to her side. She wasn't dead, but she was no longer able to rise and was suffering badly. It wasn't until a sergeant from our SWAT team arrived and fired two armor-piercing rounds that Janet finally died.

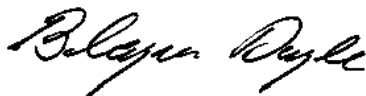
Seventeen spectators were injured and, obviously, the toll could have been far greater.

The greatest shock to me as a police officer came when I discovered that the owner and trainer of the elephant had absolutely no control over her during the incident. Tim Frisco had no plan for such an emergency, and his only strategy was to keep yelling at me to shoot her. The Frisco family still trains elephants for the circus industry. Sometime after this incident occurred, Tim Frisco was videotaped beating elephants with a bullhook—a weapon that resembles a fireplace poker with a sharp steel hook and tip—and shocking them with electric prods. I believe your local committee of concerned citizens has provided you with a DVD that documents this incident of animal abuse.

This is a pretty incredible and scary story. I was there. Local communities must enact legislation to ensure the safety of their citizens and the humane treatment of all animals traveling to your county. I am hoping that this committee will place a law on the books that will protect the public and animals and that will help police and other agencies charged with protecting the public from incidents like this.

It has happened before, it has happened since and, ladies and gentlemen, I guarantee you it will happen again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blayne Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Blayne Doyle

APPENDIX D

PETA “STATE OF THE CIRCUS INDUSTRY” FACTSHEET

Factsheet

Attendance is declining at circuses that use abusive and demeaning animal acts, while animal-free circuses are growing in popularity. Contact PETA for documentation.

January 12, 2004: "Cirque du Soleil is so vastly superior to something as passé as Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey."—*The Miami Herald*

June 29, 2003: "The [Louisiana Shriners' first fund-raising] fair featured more than 15 rides, craft and concession booths, bands and a car show. This year, [fund-raising chair Mike Buras] said, the Shriners decided to put on a fair because of waning interest in the group's annual circus at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner. 'The circus has been our primary fund-raiser for years, but recently there has been a decline. We thought the fair would be a great supplement to boost fund-raising efforts.'"—*Times-Picayune*

May 2, 2003: "There was the usual bunch of animal acts, but none of them was all that dazzling. ... It seems, too, that the animal rights people are starting to get to me despite reams of counter-publicity from the circus on the tender loving care all its animals receive. When I watched a tiger hop across its cage on two legs, or saw the elephants go through their paces, I couldn't help but ponder how the circus got them to do all that."—*The Providence Journal*

April 18, 2003: "And so what remains of the old [at Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus], and of discomfort to some, are the animals. While only three protesters quietly stood outside the First Union Spectrum, children inside were questioning the treatment of the tigers, elephants and especially the Friesian, Arabian and Palomino horses as Sacha Houcke unsmilingly cracked his whip. ... The truth is that the human performers are now so strong and varied that, as stunning as it seems, the circus could do away with quadrupeds altogether—well, perhaps not the adorable dogs—and be just as strong."—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

February 14, 2003: "Imagine a circus with no grouchy tigers balancing on balls and no bored elephants lumbering around the ring. ... Cirque EOS features astounding balancing acts, fleet-handed jugglers, aerial artists who dance suspended from great heights, extreme bicyclists and gymnasts who make tumbling, leaping and flipping look as easy as strolling across the room."—*The Tallahassee Democrat*

January 9, 2003: "Forget the tigers, the elephants and the dancing bears. Cirque du Soleil will never travel the world with performing animals. ... 'We do not agree with the way they are trained and I'm not sure the place of an elephant or a tiger is to stand in a cage half of its life and perform all around the world,' [said Cirque artistic director Pierre Parisien.] 'We will never have animals in our shows.' ... Over the past two decades, [Cirque du Soleil] has developed into a giant entertainment empire and given circus a new lease of life. Cirque du Soleil now has 2,400 employees and 500 artists from more than 40 countries. Its shows have been seen in 130 cities by close to 33 million spectators."—*Reuters English News Service*

January 1, 2003: "There are no ... tamed lions nor dancing bears. What the world-acclaimed troupe brings to the big top is a unique artistic blend full of surprises and delights. Repackaging the circus concept in a much more modern way to create onstage magic, Cirque du Soleil offers a multisensory show unlike any seen before."—*Asahi Shimbun* (Japan)

October 15, 2002: "Forget the dancing bears, elephants, and performing monkeys. ... Cirque du Soleil began in 1984 [with] a group of street performers who wished to reinvent the circus by stripping away many of the ostentatious elements and return it to the core of human invention and imagination. Now, after 17 years, Cirque du Soleil has performed for nearly 33 million spectators worldwide. ... Judging from the roaring applause of the packed house, the showstopper was by far the hoop-diving act. ... Young and old alike will walk away with a smile on their face and a dream in their heart."—*The State Hornet*

September 14, 2002: "Cirque Eos is crammed with hold-your-breath moments. ... The concept certainly owes much to that other Québécois circus export, Cirque du Soleil—such as the elaborate costumes and the fact that there are no animals—but, considering the wild popularity of that phenomenon, who can blame [Cirque Eos founder Michel

Rousseau] for jumping on the train? ... Cirque Eos has transformed the PNE parking lot into a real circus, a fact that was confirmed by the sea of smiles leaving the big top.”—*The Globe and Mail*

August 19, 2002: “Recent editions of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus have looked a little wheezy and out of date. Worse yet, some of the acts weren’t even PC. No one wants to see elephants forced into that anxious gallop around the ring anymore. ... ‘T.M. the Gator Guy’ spent most of his time hauling what appeared to be somnolent reptiles from place to place. The coolest thing about the Gator Guy was the motorcycle he rode in on. ... Sara, the bombshell blonde, is ‘The Tiger Whisperer.’ (She whispers, but in case they don’t hear her, she still cracks a whip.) ... Nobody asked us, but what the new circus should really do is marginalize the animals and keep the spotlight on the jaw-dropping human acts.”—*The San Francisco Chronicle*

July 27, 2002: “However you describe it, though, Canada’s Cirque du Soleil is by far the classiest act around. ... You won’t find any neurotic bears riding bikes, any elephants being goaded into questionable pet tricks.”—*The Providence Journal*

July 26, 2002: “Gone are the animals. ... With these changes Cirque has redefined the circus for the 21st century—it is the New Age Barnum and Bailey. And Cirque creates an entertainment that can be enjoyed equally by children and adults for entirely different reasons.”—*Boston Herald*

June 9, 2002: “This circus didn’t have performing animals. ... After two extensions to meet the demand, the final [Cirque du Soleil] performances will be held today. ... [O]ur guess is that this one will be remembered longer than most.”—*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

March 26, 2002: “I went to see the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at Madison Square Garden. ... The Garden was half full. ... The tigers moved with the half-speed of a Municipal Building bureaucrat and were more stoned than the bums you had to step over in Penn Station on the way into the Garden. ... [M]y little guy’s favorite attraction was the giant industrial dung vacuum.”—*New York Daily News*

March 25, 2002: “[T]he three shows put on by the Moscow State Circus yesterday certainly demonstrated that if you put on an event people want, they’ll come. ... [T]he Moscow State Circus is animal free.”—*The Milford Daily News*

February 25, 2002: “Gone, seemingly for good, are the wild animals that, in their often-bedraggled form, once formed a staple of the circus experience. The Great China company has no animals among its ranks. ... The sense of community unease about exotic animals in circus-scale confinement has become stronger throughout the community.”—*The Southland Times*

February 4, 2002: “[T]he 2001 tour in New England for many [circuses] was spotty. Even those that were sponsored by nonprofit groups and fraternities often failed to bring out the crowds in 2001. ... With the folding of Roberts Bros. Circus, [and] the rumored closing of several other shows, the 2002 touring season in New England appears to [be] bleak for the buffs.”—*Circus Report*

November 7, 2001: “[Circo Fantastico] showcases a variety of acts from all over Latin America. ... ‘It’s designed as a celebration of Hispanic culture through music, dance, and traditional circus acts,’ explains Doriana Sanchez, the show’s writer, director, and choreographer. ... ‘[We have] no animals, either. I’m really glad that there isn’t a need to use them on this. I recently went to a circus and saw an animal act that upset me to tears.’”—*Los Angeles Times*

September 30, 2001: “Sure, you can expect to see jugglers, high wire aerialists, acrobats, and death-defying feats—but you won’t see a single animal throughout the two-hour performance. ... ‘We decided that with the restraints from municipal and state governments, with the concerns people have about the treatment of animals and the organizations that protest at the various circus performances—that we did not want to fight this battle,’ [said J. Sandy Swanson, director of promotions and public relations for the Moscow State Circus.]”—*The Grand Rapids Press*

September 27, 2001: “No wonder that old-line circusgoers find [Cirque du Soleil] such an exciting and refreshing change of pace from the usual three-ring bluster and bombast. You’ll find ... no ‘courageous’ lion tamer cracking his whip to scare his beasts into submission.

So it shouldn’t surprise that Cirque’s surreal, sophisticated, and highly theatrical performance events have also captured the hearts and minds of people who wouldn’t be caught dead in a conventional circus setting.”—*Philadelphia Daily News*

July 8, 2001: “The big top has been packed day after day for three months [at the Moscow Circus in Singapore]. ... But this time it brought along none of its big animal acts, concentrating instead on jugglers, acrobats, magicians, high-wire artists, and clowns. The move back to human acts is now a global theme, influenced by such spectacular international shows as Cirque du Soleil, which mixes modern technique with much older performing arts drawn from mediaeval and Renaissance traditions.”—*Reuters*

May 7, 2001: “The 2001 edition of the Detroit Shrine Circus produced by Circus Royale failed to draw Detroiters. ... There were only about 400 people in the seats.”—*Circus Report*

May 3, 2001: “The animal acts were less prominent than in some of the past Ringling Bros. shows that have come to town.”—*The Providence Journal-Bulletin*

April 20, 2001: “Mixing hokum with the perception of brutality, the traditional circus seems uncomfortably out of place in today’s entertainment market. It’s the interspecies version of a minstrel show. ... Someone had to realize that the circus was a fine idea that just needed a bit of smartening-up. ... [S]ubtract the animal acts and add a mystical theatricality. Since [Cirque du Soleil’s] 1984 appearance at the Los Angeles Olympic Games, the appearance of a new Cirque show has become a votary occasion from millions of people who wouldn’t go near a ratty, tatty old circus. ... This is the circus I dream of running off to join.”—*Time* magazine

March 25, 2001: “[G]enerally circuses are appealing to more sophisticated audiences, with shows such as Cirque du Soleil. ... Thankfully, you no longer have to be a total sadist ... bullwhips, chairs, and mangy lions are definitely out—a trend that will hopefully continue.”—*The Observer*

March 23, 2001: “It was the end of the first half [of Cirque Eloize], and I hadn’t written a note. My 9-year-old son was mesmeriz[ed] beside me—and so was I. But there was no big top, no sawdust, no ringmaster, no greasepaint, no clowns with funny feet, and no performing animals. ... Instead, we had ... amazing gymnastic tricks and hand balancing, contortionists, trapeze artists, clowns, jugglers, a slack rope walker, a man who climbed a ladder and did tricks on it while it was unsupported, feats of incredible strength and beauty—and bike tricks like you’ve never seen. ... The audience went mad.”—*The Evening Post* (Wellington)

March 19, 2001: “[Cirque NuAge is] a combination of circus, theatre, rock concert, opera, and visual extravaganza that leaves the viewer breathless. ... There are no animals, not one. ... For two hours ... it flows hypnotically in ever-changing patterns from one thing to the next. Cirque NuAge ... is one of those shows that are gradually taking over the world of circusdom.”—*Circus Report*

February 17, 2001: “Blending street theatre and circus arts—but without a single animal—Cirque du Soleil mounted its first production. ... No one left disappointed that there were no elephants; there was a sense they were seeing something much bigger.”—*The Toronto Star*

February 9, 2001: “If you’re waiting for the fat lady to sing, don’t hold your breath. The modern circus doesn’t have a fat lady, let alone a ringmaster or animals. Instead, international acts such as Cirque du Soleil are reinventing this ancient art form, creating magical, surreal experiences—without the need for animals in a sensitive world dedicated to protecting animals’ rights.”—*New Zealand Truth* (Auckland)

November 29, 2000: “Instead of lions, tigers and elephants, [Cirque du Soleil] substituted outrageous costumes, evocative world music, and an edgy brand of performance art that seemed plucked from outer space. ... Tickets are selling so briskly for Atlanta performances that the show has already been extended by three weeks. ... Thanks to the animal-rights movement, [Fred Dahlinger, director of collections and research at Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wis.] thinks that the old-fashioned model may eventually become extinct.”—*The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*

November 3, 2000: “Founded in 1871, the ‘greatest show on earth’ has steep competition these days from artier circuses, such as Cirque du Soleil, that rely more on theatrics than on lions and tigers and bears, oh my. This may explain why the east and west wings of the venue were empty.”—*Chicago Sun-Times*

September 19, 2000: “More than anything, I noticed how many seats were empty, how The Greatest Show on Earth was more of a no-show here in Seattle than anything else.”—*The Seattle Times*

August 23, 2000: “[A] Chinese Performing Arts Company representative and interpreter [for the Chinese State Circus] said: ‘The Chinese circus is quite different to any Western circuses. We don’t have any animals. ... The

audiences love it.' ... Larry Dewit, the circus's general manager, said: 'Ticket sales have been super. It's been really busy. We may well be turning people away.'"—*Plymouth Evening Herald*

August 22, 2000: "Canada-based Cirque du Soleil continues to demonstrate how wonderfully entertaining and humane animal-free circus can be as theater."—*Los Angeles Times*

August 21, 2000: "When was the last time a circus left you giddy with a sense of poetry, or brought a bittersweet tear to your eye? This is exactly what Cirque Eloize accomplishes. ... They make the kind of sensitive circus I'd want to run away and join. We know the staples of the traditional circus experience. Deromanticised, it's trained animals, possibly mangy or plain worn-out from overwork."—*The London Evening Standard*

August 13, 2000: "Meanwhile, other more traditional circuses are looking at the [Cirque du Soleil's] success and are sending in the clones. ... The show has drawn nearly unanimous raves from reviewers."—*Minneapolis Star-Tribune*

July 13, 2000: "[D]on't come to the Circus Royale expecting to see elephants. ... Circus Royale president Jim McConnell said he'll leave the elephants home. ... 'We've talked it through, and at this place and time, the issue [of using elephants] has to be resolved.'"—*The Associated Press*

July 8, 2000: "Controversy over the use of wild animals has already begun to shape the circus of the future. 'I do see an eventual end to animals in the circus,' said Pat Delaney, a Marquette University graduate who's executive secretary of the Showmen's League of America. 'Nobody in their right minds is getting into the animal business.'"—*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

June 14, 2000: "Circus King has come under fire from MPs, councillors, and campaigners for its use of animals, including lions, horses, tigers, llamas, and Britain's last performing bear. ... [O]nly about 40 people watched the performance in a big top with a capacity for 1,000."—*Derby Evening Telegraph*

June 13, 2000: "Many seats were empty on Sunday afternoon [at the Big Apple Circus]."—*Chicago Tribune*

June 8, 2000: "There are no elephants here to do the heavy work of setting up the big top, because the Mexican International Circus has been animal-free for the last seven years. ... 'You can't use animals in a circus and not hurt them,' said [circus performer] Raymundo Campa."—*Calgary Herald*

June 2, 2000: "One of the changes in this year's [Vidbel Circus] tour is the elimination of exotic and endangered animal acts."—*Asbury Park Press*

May/June 2000: "[T]here were a noticeable number of cities and towns not wanting to sponsor circuses as fundraisers."—*White Tops*

May 29, 2000: "'In the interest of safety, [the] American Zoo and Aquarium Association strongly encourages members to discontinue public elephant rides,' read the March 21 statement from the organization's board of directors."—*The Indianapolis Star*

May 21, 2000: "But the most amazing thing of all wasn't even what was going on in the three rings [at Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus]. It was to be seen elsewhere in the arena, up in the seats. In all the empty seats. ... [T]he show we attended was nowhere close to sold out. In fact, the place was nearly empty."—*Dayton Daily News*

May 1, 2000: "The first question Sandy Dobritch asks callers seeking circuses through his Las Vegas-based talent booking agency is: 'Are you looking for a traditional three-ring circus or Cirque du Soleil?' The majority say Cirque."—*Amusement Business*

March/April 2000: "Circus Flora Ringmaster Ivor David Balding says the one-ring show's elephant will make her final bow May 21. ... As for Circus Flora without Flora [the elephant], a spokesman ... said, 'The circus is very able to continue providing the theatrical presentation using the circus arts as its foundation.'"—*White Tops*

December 2, 1999: "Attendance at the 66th annual Hadi Shrine Circus was down from last year. ... [The executive manager] estimated attendance to be 3,200 less than last year's."—*Evansville Courier & Press*

November 19, 1999: “Last Thursday’s performance of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus at the 16,000-seat Allstate Arena was so small that two of the three rings were playing to rafts of empty seats. Attendees at several other first-week performances reported similarly small houses.”—*Chicago Tribune*

November 8, 1999: “As master of ceremonies, baby-faced Johnathan Lee Iverson was a congenial [Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus] ringmaster who didn’t let on if the half-empty venue affected him.”—*Chicago Sun-Times*

October 9, 1999: “There were the 10 tigers [at the Ringling Bros. performance], rolling over on command of a whip-cracking trainer, then—against all laws of nature—walking backward on their hind legs. ... [T]he pachyderms jumped on and off a portable stand, a trainer sinking a bullhook into one who moved too slowly. ... [I]t wasn’t what I’d call the greatest show on earth. ... You’d think that wild animal acts would have gone the way of jockey lawn ornaments, two-martini lunches, and other remnants of less-enlightened days.”—*The Buffalo News*

September 17, 1999: “Attendance continues to dwindle when Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus comes to town.”—*The Indianapolis News*

June 7, 1999: “But now no fewer than a dozen animal-free [circus] shows are operating from Washington, D.C., to San Francisco; a third of them have started in the last two years.”—*Los Angeles Times*

May 1, 1999: “[T]he animal acts that once thrilled audiences now often turn them off. Television programs about animals in the wild and animal rights activists have opened people’s eyes to the fate of animals in circuses. No matter how well circus animals are fed and cared for, most of us now believe that working for peanuts and living in cages is neither natural nor healthy for wildlife.”—*Sarasota Magazine*

January 28, 1999: “‘You would have to be a blind man not to see how attitudes were changing,’ said [Chipperfield Circus spokesman Dan Owen]. ‘Circus owners have to adapt or walk away and find another way of making their living.’”—*The Northern Echo*

January 15, 1999: “[T]here’s no question Thursday’s audience [at the Moscow Circus], looking like a skimpy 2,000 or so in total, often seemed ill at ease, responding with weak applause to some of the bear antics. ... Perhaps it’s time the circus folk reassessed that part of the show ... there’s plenty of good entertainment without the muzzled beasts.”—*Calgary Herald*

September 22, 1997: “Times are changing, and people are changing, and maybe we need to change also; maybe animals aren’t going to be in circuses because people don’t want them to be. The majority will rule someday, and maybe that time is here.”—*Circus Report*

July 26, 1995: “[Ringling] also has a good idea on how to handle its image. A photo request to show the elephants with chains around their ankles was politely declined.”—*Los Angeles Times*

March 16, 1995: “Ringling Bros. finds just coming to town isn’t enough anymore. ... The company will spend more on advertising—\$25 million—than ever. And ‘The Greatest Show on Earth’ is introducing the first national advertising campaign in its history.”—*The New York Times*

February 19, 1995: “These days, the circus animals sneak into town.”—*The New York Times*

February 5, 1993: “The Garden Bros. circus came to town yesterday, but it was a new, politically correct edition, with lasers instead of lions, electronics instead of elephants. Because of a city of Toronto by-law introduced last year and under appeal, no exotic animals perform in this circus. ... But did the circus suffer without a parade of pachyderms or, as advertised in the program, a poor little pussycat jumping through a ring of fire? Not at all. The death-defying feats by the human species, the dramatic laser show, the pageantry, and the live orchestra were entertainment enough.”—*The Toronto Star*

APPENDIX E

ANIMAL-FREE CIRCUSES

Animal-Free Circuses

Animal-free circuses are growing in popularity. Whether you are looking for dazzling and humane family entertainment, a circus to perform at a fair, or a circus to sponsor for a fundraiser, these circuses feature only skilled human performers.

CIRCUSES	TOUR	FUNDRAISERS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Bindlestiff Family Cirkus P.O. Box 1917 New York, NY 10009 212-726-1935 1-877-BINDLES cirkus@bindlestiff.org bindlestiff.org</p>	<p>USA, Canada, and Europe in the spring and summer</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>This is a vaudeville-like show that performs mostly at festivals and other events and offers workshops and exhibitions in schools and universities.</p>
<p>Circus Center 755 Frederick St. San Francisco, CA 94117 415-759-8123 info@circuscenter.org circuscenter.org</p>	<p>California—the San Francisco Bay area</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This circus is an exquisitely choreographed adventure of acrobatics, aerial work, dance, and clowning that relies on grit, not glitz, to get its magic across. It provides scholarships to low-income children to attend its annual circus camp and distributes free tickets to nonprofit organizations. It provides free shows for community festivals, neighborhood fairs, and civic celebrations.</p>
<p>Circus Finelli 522 Haight St. San Francisco, CA 94117 mail@circusfinelli.com circusfinelli.com</p>	<p>Internationally, based in the San Francisco Bay Area</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Four unruly women clowns present a Slavic, slapstick cabaret with daring comedy and dangerous cutlery. See the sights to entice and delight: juggling, acrobatics, contortion, dance, and disaster. All set to the tune of European accordion, and vaudeville ukulele. Ring Mistress Madame Vinaigrette hosts.</p>
<p>Circus Luminous 2778 Agua Fria, Unit D Santa Fe, NM 87507 505-992-2588 mail@wisefoolnm.org wisefoolnm.org</p>	<p>New Mexico (will work with other groups in the Southwest)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This is a dazzling and original production featuring daring young women on the flying trapeze, innovative choreography, elaborate costumes, and a turn-of-the-century look.</p>
<p>Circus of the Kids 9042 Shoal Creek Dr. Tallahassee, FL 32312-4076 1-866-CIRCUS-5 bruce@circusofthekids.com circusofthekids.com</p>	<p>USA, year-round</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This circus is all about kids. They are the performers and are involved with the costumes, selling tickets, makeup, etc. The program is democratic, and there is no such thing as being too fat, too thin, or not smart enough to participate. The point is for the kids to feel good about themselves and to be challenged. This professional, intense, and strenuous circus allows ordinary kids to become stars.</p>

Animal-Free Circuses

CIRCUSES	TOUR	FUNDRAISERS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Cirque Dreams Cirque Productions Variety Arts Management 3803 N. 29th Ave. Hollywood, FL 33020 954-922-0888 info@cirqueproductions.com cirqueproductions.com</p>	<p>Internationally, in theaters and casino showrooms; on cruise ships, tours, and television; and at theme parties, festivals, fairs, trade shows, and corporate events</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This is a combination of fantasy circus and Broadway dream in a European-style variety show with mesmerizing music, dazzling costumes, and limitless imagination. Customized productions are available upon request. Neil Goldberg's Cirque has performed at corporate events for MCI, GE, Aetna Insurance, and Motorola as well as at numerous fundraiser galas for large charitable organizations.</p>
<p>Cirque du Soleil 8400 Second Ave. Montréal H1Z 4M6 Québec Canada 514-722-2324 contact@cirquedusoleil.com cirquedusoleil.com</p>	<p>Internationally, year-round. Cirque du Soleil has permanent shows in Las Vegas and Florida</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>This circus offers a blend of music, dance, and stunning athleticism that takes the audience on a metaphorical journey. It breaks all the rules, and its art is in a constant state of evolution. Cirque has won more than 100 awards and distinctions from various organizations and institutions for originality in its shows and excellence in management. There are more than a dozen Cirque productions.</p>
<p>Cirque Éloïze 417, rue Berri Montréal H2Y 3E1 Québec Canada 514-596-3838 eloize@cirque-eloize.com cirque-eloize.com</p>	<p>USA (fall), Canada, and Europe</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>This circus combines theater with acrobatic performances, poetry, and circus thrills. Acrobats, clowns, jugglers, trapeze artists, and musicians team up to create a rich and subtle tango of emotions. Cirque Éloïze has also developed a strong expertise in providing modern circus entertainment for private galas and corporate events.</p>
<p>Cirque Plume 37, rue Battant Besançon 25000 France 33-3-81-81-38-80 info@cirqueplume.com cirqueplume.com</p>	<p>USA and Europe—large venues only</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Performances combine music, dance, comedy, and gymnastics.</p>
<p>Fern Street Circus P.O. Box 621004 San Diego, CA 92162 619-235-9756 info@fernstreetcircus.com fernstreetcircus.com</p>	<p>San Diego area</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>This circus provides free quality entertainment to underserved neighborhoods. Also provides free-of-charge circus and music instruction at city recreation centers. This is a professional circus and variety artist performance in a simple and whimsical setting.</p>

Animal-Free Circuses

CIRCUSES	TOUR	FUNDRAISERS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Flying Fruit Fly Circus 609 Hovell St. Albury, NSW 2640 Australia 02-6021-7044 info@fruitflycircus.com.au fruitflycircus.com.au</p>	<p>Internationally, year-round</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Performances are a blend of circus, dance, theater, and live percussion with attitude. Australia's Flying Fruit Fly Circus has established itself as one of the world's premier youth performing arts companies. Its mission is to promote and enhance the education and cultural development of young people by providing high-quality circus training and by producing and touring contemporary circus performances.</p>
<p>Flying High Circus FSU Circus P.O. Box 3064026 Tallahassee, FL 32306-3064 850-644-4874 circus@admin.fsu.edu circus.fsu.edu</p>	<p>USA, primarily in the Southeast. Occasionally tours in the Bahamas, Canada, the Dominican Republic, Europe, the Virgin Islands, and the West Indies</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Performances feature high-wire acts, juggling acts, bicycle tricks, and acrobatics. The Flying High Circus performs on the road for a number of sponsored events. Shows range from 30 minutes in length to more than two hours, for all kinds of gatherings—including fairs, public or private fundraisers, or conventions. Performances can be held indoors, outdoors, or under the circus's own big top.</p>
<p>Gregangelo & Velocity Circus Troupe 225 San Leandro Way San Francisco, CA 94127 415-664-0095 info@gregangelo.com gregangelo.com</p>	<p>USA, year-round (mainly commissioned by corporations for special events)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Shows combine daring skill, comedy, dazzling aerials, interactive audience antics, and magic, with stunning costumes and music. This troupe offers custom shows for business promotions, private parties, fairs, festivals, aerial classes, and more.</p>
<p>Hiccup Circus Hawaii's Volcano Circus Educational Nonprofit Organizations RR 2, Box 4524 Pahoa, HI 96778 808-965-8756 graham@hiccupcircus.com hiccupcircus.com</p>	<p>Hawaii, year-round, and occasionally in California</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>This circus performs at community events and works with schools. It has a unique program offering educational services to the public, with emphasis on elementary and intermediate school-age children and teenagers, especially in underserved, isolated rural communities.</p>
<p>Imperial Circus of China c/o Management One, LLC 7380 Sand Lake Rd., Ste. 350 Orlando, FL 32819 407-909-1013 john.regna@worldentertainment.net Imperialcircus.com</p>	<p>Internationally, year-round</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Considered the best of all Chinese circuses, it has played an important role in cultural exchanges between China and other nations. Its excellent performances have been warmly welcomed and highly appreciated by audiences around the globe.</p>

Animal-Free Circuses

CIRCUSES	TOUR	FUNDRAISERS	DESCRIPTION
<p>Lazer Vaudeville 631 Spruce St. Boulder, CO 80302-5017 303-413-8116 Lazervaudeville@earthlink.net lazervaudeville.com</p>	USA (usually excluding the summer)	N/A	This circus works with schools and gives performances that are educational and entertaining. Performances are a mix of black light, juggling, lasers with magic, audience participation, acrobatics, slapstick comedy, and dance with object manipulation.
<p>Les Colporteurs 66. rue Villiers de l'Isle Adam 75020 Paris France 33-0-491-425-080 colporteurs.fdp@wanadoo.fr</p>		N/A	Performers include traveling dancers, illusionists, and air musicians. They create a spectacle that is altogether circus, theater, dance, and magic.
<p>New Shanghai Circus 645 State Hwy. 165 Branson, MO 65616 417-334-8781 info@nscc.biz acrobatsofchina.com</p>	USA, Europe, and Asia, with a permanent venue in Branson, Mo., at the MGH Performing Arts Center	No	This circus offers breath-taking feats of strength, endurance, flexibility, balance, contortion, and magic. In the spring of 1999, the circus was invited to the New Victory Theater in New York for 28 performances, which were all "Sold Out on Broadway!"
<p>Russian American Kids Circus The Brad Simon Organization, Inc. 122 E. 57th St. New York, NY 10022 212-980-5920, ext. 122 212-730-2132 barbara@bsoinc.com rakidscircus.org</p>	Internationally, year-round	Yes	This is a fully staged professional circus whose stars happen to be children between the ages of 6 and 18. These artists fill the stage with a blur of spangles, dazzling audiences with soaring acrobatics, synchronized unicycling, expert juggling, daring aerial feats, and precision balancing.
<p>7 Fingers Les 7 doigts de la main 3506, ave. Laval Montréal H2X 3C8 Québec Canada 514-521-4477 info@les7doigtsdelamain.com les7doigtsdelamain.com</p>	Europe, Canada, and large venues in the USA	N/A	The joyous, surrealistic universe of 7 Fingers is filled with the beauty of awe-inspiring aerialists, the startling precision of amazing jugglers, the breath-taking exploits of graceful acrobats, and the wit and humor of seven young international circus performers.
<p>Swamp Circus Theatre 19 Wansfell Rd. Sheffield South Yorkshire S4 8BE England 44-0-114-256-0962 info@swampcircus.com swampcircus.com</p>	Internationally	Yes	This is an all-human circus theater with an environmentally flavored artistic direction, a commitment to arts in the community, and a taste for adventure. Work is characterized by a unique blend of innovative, high-energy circus theater, live music, and ecological themes. Projects range from community-centered workshops to world-class big top touring extravaganzas.

APPENDIX F

ZOOS THAT HAVE CLOSED OR EXPRESSED INTENT TO CLOSE ELEPHANT EXHIBITS



IN DEFENSE OF ANIMALS

Zoos Are Getting Out of the Elephant Business

22 zoos have closed or will be closing their elephant exhibits

Eighteen zoos have closed their exhibits:

Omaha Zoo, Neb. (2011)
Central Florida Zoo (2011)
Brookfield Zoo (2010)
Lion Country Safari (2010)
Jackson Zoo, Miss. (2010)
Philadelphia Zoo (2008)
Abilene Zoo, Tex. (2007)
Alaska Zoo (2007)
Gladys Porter Zoo, Tex. (2006)
Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo (2005)
Detroit Zoo (2004)
San Francisco Zoo (2004)
Chehaw Wild Animal Park, Ga. (2004)
Henry Vilas Zoo, Wisc. (2000)
Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo (1999)
Mesker Park Zoo, Ind. (1999)
Frank Buck Zoo Tex. (1998)
Sacramento Zoo, Calif. (1991)

Four zoos will phase out their exhibits

Bronx Zoo, NY
Pt. Defiance Zoo, Wash.
Santa Barbara Zoo, Calif.
Toronto Zoo, Ontario, Canada

Reasons for closing elephant exhibits

Lack of adequate space; elephant deaths and health problems related to lack of space; lack of funding for exhibit expansion; and recognition that a traditional zoo cannot meet elephants' needs for vast space for movement and health maintenance, mental stimulation, and healthy social groups. The Bronx Zoo recognized that elephants must be protected in their natural homes, stating it would "rather steer its money toward preserving elephants in the wild in Africa and Asia..."

APPENDIX G

2007 LETTER FROM THE HON. ROSIE MENDEZ
TO HER NYC COUNCIL PEER MEMBERS

April 9, 2007

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to ask for your support of legislation that we're sponsoring to prohibit the display of wild or exotic animals for public entertainment or amusement. 14 Council Members from four boroughs currently sponsor the bill, Intro. 389.

Intro. 389 will help protect the interests of New York City public health and safety, as well as the wild and exotic animals used for public entertainment. There are currently no local laws in the City of New York regulating the use of wild or exotic animals for entertainment, and state and federal law insufficiently regulate the industry. As the attached testimony reveals, the animals used in circuses, rodeos, and other forms of public entertainment are grossly mistreated and abused. Elephants, lions, tigers, and other large animals are whipped with bullhooks, which causes great pain and stress. This at times leads to frightened animals rebelling, resulting in physical injury, major property damage, and even death. Since 1990, there have been more than 123 documented attacks on humans by captive large cats in the United States, 13 of which resulted in fatal injuries.

Opponents of this legislation argue that those who rely on the circus for wages, such as vendors and ushers, will lose money. However, in the entertainment capital of the world, we find it hard to believe that we will not find another way to sell out Madison Square Garden for the few nights of the year the circus is in town.

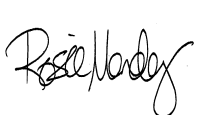
A few opponents have also suggested that we would be depriving our children of an enjoyable experience. They should note that circuses such as the Big Apple Circus that do not display exotic animals will not be affected. Also, Intro. 389 will not apply to zoos, museums, institutions operated by the wildlife conservation society, veterinarians, or wildlife sanctuaries.

These forms of entertainment do not have educational value, as circuses do not teach children how animals naturally behave or where they come from. Twenty-seven municipalities across the United States have banned wild or exotic animal displays thus far, including two in New York, and the numbers are increasing. As always, our city should be at the forefront and not left out of such important initiatives.

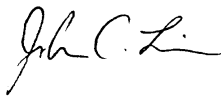
We should not continue to sustain a cruel and dangerous industry simply because it is a tradition.

Thank you for your consideration of support for Intro. 389. If you wish to be a co-sponsor, please see the attached sign-on sheet. Feel free to contact Councilwoman Mendez's office, at (212) 788-7366 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Rosie Mendez
Council Member



John C. Liu
Council Member



Diana Reyna
Council Member

Peter Vallone Jr.
Council Member

APPENDIX H

PROPOSED FEDERAL LEGISLATION

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3359

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to restrict the use of exotic and non-domesticated animals in traveling circuses and exhibitions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 2011

Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. FILNER, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. STARK, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. NADLER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. POLIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Animal Welfare Act to restrict the use of exotic and non-domesticated animals in traveling circuses and exhibitions.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Traveling Exotic Ani-
5 mal Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) traveling circuses are detrimental to animal
2 welfare due to the adverse effects of captivity and
3 transport;

4 (2) due to severe confinement, lack of free exer-
5 cise, and the restriction of natural behaviors, ani-
6 mals used in circuses suffer and are prone to health,
7 behavioral, and psychological problems;

8 (3) the tricks that exotic and non-domesticated
9 animals are forced to perform require extreme phys-
10 ical coercion techniques, including the restriction of
11 food, the use of elephant hooks (objects used to con-
12 trol and punish elephants), electric shocks, metal
13 bars, whips, and other forms of physical abuse;

14 (4) the welfare of animals subject to the condi-
15 tions in traveling circuses, such as constant travel,
16 limited facilities, long periods of restriction of move-
17 ment, stress, and physical coercion, will inevitably be
18 compromised, which can lead to increased risks to
19 public safety;

20 (5) animals in traveling circuses pose an addi-
21 tional risk to public safety because such animals
22 have wild instincts and needs and have demonstrated
23 unpredictability;

24 (6) the use of collapsible, temporary facilities in
25 traveling circuses increases the risk of escaping ex-

1 otic and non-domesticated animals seriously harming
2 workers and the public;

3 (7) traveling circuses bring people dangerously
4 close to exotic and non-domesticated animals by dis-
5 playing animals in inappropriate, uncontrolled areas
6 that are not suited for the exhibition of such ani-
7 mals;

8 (8) it is not possible to provide exotic and non-
9 domesticated animals with facilities sufficient to
10 maintain the optimum physical and mental health of
11 the animals because of the suffering caused to the
12 animals by the nature of circuses, in which restric-
13 tion of movement, separation from natural
14 groupings, restriction of food and water, and phys-
15 ical abuse are prevalent;

16 (9) due to the mobile and transitory nature of
17 traveling circuses, law enforcement authorities can-
18 not properly monitor the conditions of the animals
19 or follow up on previous infractions by traveling cir-
20 cuses; and

21 (10) restricting the use of exotic and non-do-
22 mesticated animals in circuses is the most cost-effec-
23 tive and efficient way to safeguard both animal wel-
24 fare and public safety.

1 **SEC. 3. USE OF EXOTIC OR WILD ANIMALS IN TRAVELING**
2 **CIRCUSES AND EXHIBITIONS.**

3 Section 13 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C.
4 2143) is amended by adding at the end the following new
5 subsection:

6 “(i)(1) No exhibitor may allow for the participation
7 of an exotic or wild animal (including a non-human pri-
8 mate) in an animal act if, during the 15-day period pre-
9 ceding such participation, such animal was traveling in a
10 mobile housing facility.

11 “(2) The restriction under paragraph (1) shall not
12 apply to the use of an exotic or wild animal (including
13 a non-human primate)—

14 “(A) in an exhibition at a non-mobile, perma-
15 nent institution or facility, including an accredited
16 zoo or aquarium;

17 “(B) as part of an outreach program for edu-
18 cational or conservation purposes by an accredited
19 zoo or aquarium, if the animal used for such pur-
20 poses is not kept in a mobile housing facility for
21 more than 12 hours a day;

22 “(C) by a university, college, laboratory, or
23 other research facility registered with the Secretary
24 pursuant to section 6;

25 “(D) in film, television, or advertising if such
26 use does not involve a live public exhibition; or

1 “(E) in a rodeo.

2 “(3) A traveling circus or exhibitor that fails to com-
3 ply with this subsection shall be subject to the penalties
4 provided for under section 19.”.

5 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

6 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
7 on the date that is one year after the date of the enact-
8 ment of this Act.

○

Armenia is one of the oldest peoples with a recorded history. According to tradition anchored in the Bible, Armenia is the place where Noah's Ark set down on Mt. Ararat and where life was resurrected on earth. Ultimately, Armenia's is a documented history of one of the oldest nations that has retained distinct political entry for close to three thousand years. In the early 6th Century B.C., Prophet Jeremiah spoke about the "Kingdom of Ararat" as one of the key states that would challenge and ultimately break the dominance of the Babylonian Empire. In the 4th Century B.C., the great Greek commander Xenophon wrote about a distinct political entity called Armenia within the Persian sphere of influence through which he marched his troops on their way back to Greece.

Since the 2nd Century B.C., Armenia constituted the northern tier of imperial advances—initially of the Romans, the Selucids, and the Parthians; and then of all the successor empires. Throughout these times, Armenians have repeatedly tried to assert self-determination against repeated campaigns of empires determined to consolidate dominance over this most important geo-strategic asset. For the next two millennia, Armenia was destined to become a key battleground between the Empires of Eurasia for the control over the geo-strategic road junction between West (Europe) and East (Heart of Asia), North (Russia) and South (Middle East).

Armenia's acceptance of Christianity in the early 4th Century A.D. constitutes a turning point. Armenia was the first country to adopt the socio-political connotations of Christianity, leading King Tiridates to establish an independent state. However, given Armenia's geo-strategic importance, neither the Romans nor the Persians permitted the existence of an independent Armenia. Indeed, by the end of the 4th Century, Armenia was partitioned between the two leading empires of that era—Rome and Persia. Since then, and essentially until the end of the Cold War, Armenia repeatedly succumbed to bigger armies and bigger states or empires—all coveting the geo-strategic key locale that Armenia is.

By the 6th Century, despite Armenia's loss of independence, the Armenian Church separated itself from Rome in order to ensure the people's distinct and unique character. This distinction has since enabled Armenians to endure the prevail even as eastern Christendom succumbed to the advent of Islam and its civilization was lost forever. All this time, Armenian civilization and cultural legacy has been maintained by the Church through the countless invasions, occupations, destructions and mass killings that would impact Armenia until the late 20th Century.

The leit motif in this brief history is simple: a small people steadfastly holding to their land and heritage as their country is repeatedly subjected to occupations because of its unique geo-strategic importance. As Bismarck once said: "Of all the elements that make up history, geography is the one that never changes." We, the U.S. and the West, still need this geo-strategic road junction. But unlike empires of past, we must secure it not through occupation but through the empowerment and support of the true "owners" of this land—the Armenians. They have demonstrated throughout their history their determination to hold to independence against overwhelming odds. It is in our national inter-

est to help the Armenians safeguard their current freedom and independence.

Armenia is now independent as the consequence of the determination, commitment and sacrifices of its own people. Its geo-strategic location remains as important as ever before. And although the tenuous cease-fire with Azerbaijan is holding, Armenia's overall security posture is worsening. The entire Caucasus is now being set aflame by Islamist radicalism. The Islamist leaders of the insurrection in Dagastan have repeatedly vowed to "liberate" and "cleanse" the entire Caucasus of the presence of non-Muslims so that they can establish a unified Muslim state. Moreover, the flames of terrorism and radicalism not only affect Russia—now subject to Islamist terrorism and subversion—but also penetrate and profoundly affect Turkey, an ally and a NATO member. Further more, this eruption has a direct bearing on vital economic interests of the U.S. and its closest allies. The Caucasus is the West's primary gateway to the energy resources of the Caspian Sea basin and Central Asia—a region commonly known as the Persian Gulf of the 21st Century. An Islamist state in the Caucasus is bound to endanger the West's freedom of access to these energy resources.

Hence, it is imperative for the U.S. to have a bulwark of stability in this crucial geo-strategic road junction. The U.S. needs an ally in place that is not susceptible to the lure of, and/or vulnerable to the ruthlessness of, the rising Islamist militancy. Determined to remain a loyal member of the West without forsaking its distinct heritage and culture, independent Armenia is uniquely eligible to be as such a bulwark. Now, on the eve of the next millennium, it is imperative for us to ensure the growth, development and betterment of Armenia so that a strong and free Armenia continues to serve as a source of stability and Judeo-Christian civilization, as well as Western security and economic interests, in this most important and increasingly volatile region. It is therefore, in our national security interest to ensure that Armenia's eighth independence day is just one of many more to come.

THE CAPTIVE ELEPHANT
ACCIDENT PREVENTION ACT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Captive Elephant Accident Prevention Act to make circuses more humane for the animals and safer for the spectators. I would like to make it clear that I am not interested in seeing the circus industry unduly hindered or encumbered. My bill is a practical, reasonable one that addresses a fundamental wrong in the entertainment industry.

When an elephant rampages it can injure and kill spectators, not to mention damage property. There is simply no stopping a rampaging elephant until the animal is dead, a tragedy which is obviously a symptom of a larger problem. Because of circuses and elephant rides, we've grown accustomed to seeing elephants perform tricks or being ridden as

if they are domesticated animals such as horses. But these are not domesticated creatures. Elephants are wild animals—animals for whom all the coaxing in the world will not encourage them to let you ride on their backs, or get them to stand on their heads, rear up on their hind legs, walk a balance beam, or any of the other unnatural stunts they perform in circuses.

To get a 5 ton, 10 foot tall animal to perform these stressful, often painful stunts 2 or 3 shows per day, animal trainers use fear and torture. In his arsenal, the elephant trainer has devices such as high-powered electric prods, ancuses, bull hooks (long sharpened metal hook at the end of a handle), and Martingales (heavy chains binding an elephant's tusks to his front feet). To get these giant, willful, wild animals to behave like trained dogs, elephants are brutalized. It is therefore understandable that when they get the chance, they kill people.

Since 1983, at least 28 people have been killed by captive elephants performing in circuses and elephant ride exhibits. More than 70 others have been seriously injured, including at least 50 members of the general public who were spectators at circuses and other elephant exhibits. In fact, 19 states have banned elephants from close contact with the public. This includes giving rides or even photo ops, because of the danger of rampages.

Why do we continue to use taxpayer dollars to murder endangered species in the middle of our major metropolitan areas when we could simply address the problem by removing elephants from these tragedies waiting to happen.

My bill proposes to exclude elephants from traveling shows and to eliminate elephant rides, not to close down circuses. I ask my colleagues to join me as a cosponsor on the Captive Elephant Accident Prevention Act. I also want to thank game show host Bob Barker for coming to Washington, D.C. to support this bill H.R. 2929.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING
DR. EDWARD L. FLORAK

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 1999

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following proclamation to my colleagues:

Whereas, Dr. Florak served as the President of Jefferson Community College for 13½ years and under his leadership the College expanded its curriculum and aligned itself with major higher education institutions around the country; and,

Whereas, Dr. Florak has represented the College throughout the state in the Ohio Association of Community Colleges; and,

Whereas, Dr. Florak represented JCC and Jefferson County as one of America's Community Heros and carried the Olympic Torch during the ceremonies in June 1999; and,

Whereas, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Florak on his lifetime of service to his community as well as the College. I am proud to call him a constituent.

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2929

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to elephants.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 1999

Mr. FARR of California (for himself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. STARK, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. WEINER, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. HALL of Ohio, and Mr. TANCREDO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit certain conduct relating to elephants.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Captive Elephant Acci-
5 dent Prevention Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELEPHANT SHOWS AND RIDES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 89 of title 18, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing:

5 **“§ 1822. Elephant shows and rides**

6 “(a) Whoever, in or affecting interstate or foreign
7 commerce, knowingly makes available any elephant for—

8 “(1) use in a travelling show or circus; or

9 “(2) the purpose of allowing individuals to ride
10 that elephant;

11 shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than
12 1 year, or both. In the case of a conviction of a person
13 who has previously been convicted for another offense
14 under this section, the offender shall be fined under this
15 title or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

16 “(b) In this section, the term ‘travelling show or cir-
17 cus’ means a show or circus that spends most of its work-
18 ing time each year away from its permanent facility.”.

19 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
20 at the beginning of chapter 89 of title 18, United States
21 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
22 item:

“1822. Elephant shows and rides.”.

○

APPENDIX I

SAMPLE OF EXISTING LAWS AND MODEL LEGISLATION

Legislation Prohibiting or Restricting Animal Acts

The federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA), enforced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, establishes only minimal standards for the care of certain species used in circuses and other exhibitions. The AWA does not prohibit the use of bullhooks, whips, electric prods, and other devices that cause pain and suffering. The AWA is poorly and inconsistently enforced, and no government agency monitors training sessions. Many state and local governments have enacted stricter laws to protect animals and the public. The following is a general guide on localities that have prohibited or restricted animal acts.

Localities That Have Banned Circuses, Rodeos, and Other Animal Acts

California

Encinitas
Pasadena
Rohnert Park

Colorado

Boulder

Connecticut

Stamford

Florida

Hollywood
Lauderdale Lakes

Maryland

Takoma Park

Massachusetts

Braintree
Provincetown (non-

binding resolution)

Quincy
Revere

Missouri

Richmond

New York

Greenburgh (public
property)

Washington

Port Townsend
Redmond

Localities Outside the United States That Have Banned Animal Acts

Argentina

Buenos Aires
(prohibits circuses
with animals)

Australia

Prohibits the use of
wild or exotic
animals:
Armsdale
Perth
Bayswater
(prohibits animal
acts on property
owned by council)
Cambridge
Prohibits or restricts
animal acts on
property owned by
council:
Ferndale
Kalamunda
Lake Macquarie
Mandurah
Mosman Park
Victoria Park
Vincent

Austria

Nationwide

(prohibits the use of
wild animals in
circuses)

Brazil

Nationwide
(prohibits the use of
marine mammals in
entertainment)
Atibaia
Avaré
Campinas
Cotia
Porto Alegre
Rio de Janeiro
São Leopoldo
Sorocaba
Ubatuba

Canada

Argyle
Bridgewater
Burlington
Burnaby
Chilliwack
Coquitlam
Digby
Guelph
Kamploops
Kanata

Kelowna
Langley
Malahide
Maple Ridge
Mont Royal
Nanaimo City
Nanaimo regional
district
New Westminster
North Cowichan
North Vancouver
City
Parksville
Port Colbarne
Saanich
Salmon Arm
Shelbourne
St. Laurent
Surrey
Vancouver
Victoria
Yarmouth

Colombia

Bogotá

Costa Rica

Nationwide
(also prohibits

dolphin and whale
swim programs)

Finland

Nationwide

Greece

Kalamaria
Patra
Thessaloniki

India

Nationwide
(prohibits the use of
bears, monkeys,
tigers, panthers,
and lions)

Singapore

Nationwide

Sweden

Nationwide
(prohibits most
animals, including
bears, big cats,
monkeys, hippos,
giraffes, and rhinos)

Localities That Have Banned Chemical, Manual, and Electrical Means of Making an Animal Perform (any method that causes an animal pain, discomfort, or suffering)

<u>Florida</u> Pompano Beach Tallahassee	<u>Illinois</u> Collinsville (excludes circuses)	<u>New York</u> Southampton
<u>Indiana</u> Fort Wayne	<u>Kentucky</u> Jefferson County	<u>South Carolina</u> Aiken County

Localities That Have Banned Contact Between the Public and Dangerous or Exotic Animals

<u>Arizona</u> Statewide	(prohibits allowing dangerous animals, including elephants, to run at large or be walked on a chain or rope)	massasauga rattlesnakes, mountain lions or mountain lion-hybrids, wolves or wolf-hybrids and black bears or black bear-hybrids)	big cats and bears under 25 pounds and less than three months old)
<u>Delaware</u> Statewide			
<u>Florida</u> Statewide (public contact is authorized only for elephants, carnivores under 40 pounds, apes over 6 months old and under 40 pounds, and gibbons and siamangs over 4 months old)	<u>Kentucky</u> Butler County Jefferson County	<u>New Hampshire</u> Statewide	<u>Texas</u> Wise County
<u>Georgia</u> Statewide	<u>Maine</u> Statewide	<u>New York</u> Wallkill (tigers, lions, and bears only)	<u>Virginia</u> Statewide (dangerous reptiles and amphibians only) Fairfax County (excluding elephants) Falls Church Richmond Spotsylvania County
<u>Illinois</u> Peoria Waukegan	<u>Mississippi</u> Statewide	<u>Pennsylvania</u> Statewide (excluding chimpanzees and elephants)	
	<u>Missouri</u> Statewide (public contact is prohibited with copperheads, cottonmouths, timber rattlesnakes, pygmy rattlesnakes,	<u>Tennessee</u> Statewide (excludes	

Localities With Prohibitions on Specific Acts

<u>Bear-Wrestling</u> Alabama Arkansas California Connecticut Delaware Florida Georgia Illinois Iowa Kentucky Louisiana Massachusetts	Mississippi Missouri New Jersey New York Oklahoma Tennessee Washington Wisconsin	<u>Bullfighting</u> Argentina Chile Cuba Uruguay Catalonia, Spain (bans children under the age of 14 from attending)	<u>Greased-Pig Contests</u> Minnesota Rhode Island
	<u>Bloodless Bullfighting</u> Florida Massachusetts		<u>Greyhound Racing</u> Idaho Maine Nevada North Carolina Vermont Virginia Washington

Miscellaneous Bans and/or Restrictions

- California**
Statewide (prohibits declawing of big cats)
Corona (prohibits wild or exotic animal displays)
Huntington Beach (prohibits performances of wild and exotic animals)
Santa Ana (prohibits wild or exotic animal displays)
- Hawaii**
Maui County (prohibits the exhibition of captive cetaceans)

Kansas

Douglas County (prohibits acts with “dangerous exotic animals”)

Kentucky

Louisville (prohibits keeping wild or vicious animals for display or for exhibition purposes; excludes animal acts such as circuses)

Massachusetts

Weymouth (prohibits public displays of nondomesticated animals)

New York

Southampton (prohibits the display of wild or exotic animals)

North Carolina

Chapel Hill (prohibits display of wild or exotic animals)

Orange County (prohibits display of wild or exotic animals)

South Carolina

Statewide (prohibits the exhibition of marine animals)

Aiken County (prohibits the permanent display of any vicious or wild animal; excludes zoos and traveling exhibits and acts)

Texas

Wise County (prohibits the breeding, buying, selling, trading, bartering, auctioning, or transferring of any wild animal)

Vermont

Burlington (prohibits public display of elephants, lions, tigers, bears or primates)

Wisconsin

Cedarburg (requires a criminal background check on circus employees)

Madison (bans public displays of cougars and bears)

Localities With Restrictions on Rodeos

Alameda County, Calif., requires that rodeos give a two-week notice of their arrival and requires that a veterinarian be present during all rodeo events.

Baltimore County, Md., prohibits calf-roping.

Baltimore, Md., prohibits the use of spurs.

California prohibits the use of electric prods once the animal is in the holding chute.

California, Illinois, Maine, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Clark County, Nev., prohibit horse-tripping.

Florida and Texas prohibit hog-dog rodeos (i.e., baiting a dog onto a hog in an enclosure).

Fort Wayne, Ind.; San Francisco, Calif.; and St. Petersburg, Fla., have banned rodeos.

Montgomery, N.J., have banned the use of electric prods at the annual rodeo.

Napa County, Calif., has banned rodeos and condemns steer-tailing.

Pittsburgh, Pa., in effect, bans rodeos by prohibiting the use of electric prods, shocking devices, flank or bucking straps, wire tie-downs, sharpened or fixed spurs, and rowels in rodeos. The city also requires that rodeos give a two-week notice of their arrival and requires that a veterinarian be present during all rodeo events.

Rhode Island prohibits calf-roping.

St. Charles, Ill., prohibits the use of electric prods once the animal is in the holding chute and requires that a veterinarian be on call at rodeos.

Localities Outside the United States With Restrictions Affecting Rodeos

Bauru, Arealva, and Avai, Brazil, have banned electric prods, flank straps, and spurs.

Germany prohibits calf-roping.

Santo André, São Caetano, Franca, and Diadema in São Paulo, Brazil, prohibit rodeos.

The Netherlands has banned Rodeo USA.

The United Kingdom and the Australian Capital Territories prohibit rodeos.

Victoria, Australia, prohibits calf-roping and the roping of any animal weighing less than 200 kg.



MODEL ORDINANCE



Ordinance No. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF _____ PROHIBITING THE USE OF WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS IN TRAVELING SHOWS AND CIRCUSES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF _____:

SECTION I. Intent

It is the intent of the _____ City Council to protect the public against hazards that wild and exotic animals used in traveling shows and circuses pose to society and to protect wild and exotic animals from cruel and inhumane treatment.

SECTION II. Definitions

For the purpose of this chapter only, the following words and terms shall be deemed to mean and to be construed as follows:

- A. "Circus" means a class C licensee that is licensed under the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. Section 2131 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments, regulations, and standards adopted pursuant to the Act, that offers performances by live animals, clowns, and/or acrobats.
- B. "Person" means an individual, partnership, corporation, joint venture, association, trust, estate, or any other legal entity, and any officer, member, shareholder, director, employee, agent, or representative of these.
- C. "Traveling show" means any mobile or stationary act, circus, public show, trade show, photographic opportunity, carnival, city or county fair, agricultural fair, ride, parade, race, performance, or similar undertaking incorporating wild or exotic animals wherein the animals are taken from their permanent residence and required to travel for any distance.
- D. "Wild or exotic animal" means any or all of the following orders and families, whether born in the wild or in captivity, and also any or all of their hybrids with domestic species. The animals listed in parentheses are intended to act as examples and are not to be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals, unless otherwise specified:
 1. Non-human primates and prosimians (such as chimpanzees, baboons, monkeys, etc.) – All species.
 2. Felidae (such as lions, tigers, cougars, leopards, ocelots, servals, etc.) - – All species except domestic cats.
 3. Canidae (such as wolves, coyotes, etc) – All species except domestic dogs.
 4. Ursidae (such as bears) – All Species.

5. Marsupialia (such as kangaroos, etc.) – All species.
6. Proboscidae (such as elephants) – All species.
7. Crocodilia (such as crocodiles, alligators, etc.) – All species.
8. Squamata (all species of snakes only)
9. Artiodactyla (such as hippopotamuses, giraffes, camels, etc.) – All species except domestic cattle, swine, sheep, or goats.
10. Perissodactyla (such as zebras, rhinos, and tapirs) – all species except domestic horses, donkeys, or mules.
11. Struthioniformes (such as ostriches) – All species.
12. Casuariiformes (such as emus) – All species.

E. “Wildlife sanctuary” means a 501(c)(3) organization described in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), Internal Revenue Code 1986, and its subsequent amendments where:

1. No commercial trade in animals occurs (including, but not limited to, sale of animals, animal parts, by-products, offspring, photographic opportunities or public events for financial profit, or any other entertainment purposes),
2. No propagation of animals occurs in the facility, and
3. No unescorted public visitation is allowed; no direct contact between the public and wild animals is allowed; animals are not taken from the sanctuary or enclosures for exhibition.

SECTION III Prohibition

It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct, sponsor, or operate a traveling show or circus that includes wild or exotic animals on any public or private land within the City of _____.

SECTION IV Enforcement

Police officers, humane investigators, and the City’s Animal Service Officers shall have the power and authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter and perform all duties imposed by the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION V Penalty

Any person, firm, or corporation violating this section shall be fined not more than \$5000.00 dollars per animal or be imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

SECTION VI Exceptions

The provisions of this section shall not apply to:

1. Institutions accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, or
2. Any wildlife sanctuary as defined under this ordinance.

ORDINANCE 2002-04
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ENCINITAS
ADDING CHAPTER 9.22 TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE
PROHIBITING THE DISPLAY OF WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS
FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT OR AMUSEMENT

SECTION ONE:

A new Chapter 9.22 is hereby added to the Encinitas Municipal Code to read as follows:

"Display of Wild or Exotic Animals for Public Entertainment or Amusement

9.22.010	Purpose and Intent
9.22.020	Definitions
9.22.030	Display of Wild and Exotic Animals ---- Prohibited
9.22.040	Enforcement
9.22.050	Penalties
9.22.060	Exemptions

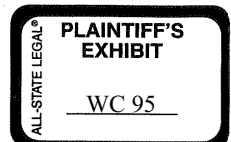
9.22.010 Purpose and Intent It is the purpose and intent of the Encinitas City Council to protect the public against hazards that wild and exotic animals used in entertainment pose to society and to protect wild and exotic animals from cruel and inhumane treatment.

9.22.020 Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter only, the following words and terms shall be deemed to mean and be construed as follows:

A. 'Display' means to undertake any exhibition, act, circus, ride, trade show, carnival, parade, race, photographic opportunity, performance or similar undertaking in which animals are required to perform tricks, fight, or participate as accompaniments in performances for the entertainment, amusement or benefit of an audience. Display shall not include the use or exhibition of animals for animal-related educational purposes by non-profit groups or institutions or individuals.

B. 'Domestic animal' means any animal that is livestock, a companion animal, or both. Livestock includes but is not limited to: 1) poultry 2) cattle 3) swine 4) sheep 5) goats and 6) horses. Companion animal means any animal that is commonly kept by persons as a pet or for companionship and includes but is not limited to: 1) domesticated dogs 2) domesticated cats 3) ferrets 4) gerbils 5) guinea pigs 6) hamsters 7) horses 8) mice 9) rabbits and 10) rats.



C. 'Educational activities' means teaching and instructing with the intent and effect of imparting valuable knowledge to others through oral presentations and written materials.

D. 'Exhibition' means a public showing, presentation, display, exposition, fair or similar activity.

E. 'Person' means any individual, establishment, firm, association, organization, partnership, trust, corporation or company.

F. 'Wild and exotic animal' means non-domestic animal and includes any or all of the following orders and families, or similar orders and families whether bred in the wild or in captivity, and any hybrid with domestic animals. The animals listed in parentheses are intended as examples and are not to be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals listed, unless otherwise specified:

1. Non-human primates and prosimians (chimpanzees, monkeys)
2. Felidae (except domesticated cats)
3. Canidae (except domesticated dogs)
4. Ursidae (bears)
5. Proboscidae (elephants)
6. Cotacea (whales, dolphins, porpoises)
7. Crocodilia (alligators, crocodiles)
8. Marsupialia (kangaroos, opossums)
9. Reptilia over 8 feet in length and snakes and reptiles of venomous variety.
10. Perissodactyla (rhinoceroses, tapirs, but not horses or donkeys or mules)
11. Artiodactyla (hippopotamuses, giraffes, camels, but not cattle, swine, sheep or goats)
12. Hyaenidae
13. Mustelidae (skunks, weasels, otters, badgers)
14. Procyonidae (raccoons, coatis)
15. Edentata (anteaters, sloths, armadillos)
16. Viverridae (mongooses, civets, and genets)
17. Pimipedia (seals, sea lions, walruses)
18. Struthioniformes (ostriches)
19. Casuariiformes (emus)

9.22.030 Display of Wild or Exotic Animals ---- Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to display or sponsor a display of any wild and exotic animal for public entertainment, amusement or benefit on any public or private property within the City of Encinitas.

9.22.040 Enforcement

City officials shall have the power and authority to enforce the provisions of this Chapter and seek all available remedies including recourse in civil court.

9.22.050 Penalty

Any person who displays or sponsors a display of any wild and exotic animal for public entertainment, amusement or benefit shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

9.22.060 Exemptions

The following are exempt from the provisions of this Chapter:

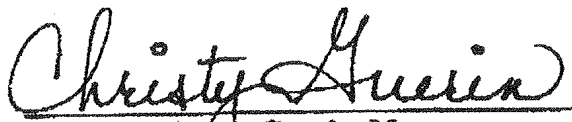
- A. Educational activities endorsed or accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association.
- B. Veterinarians in the ordinary course of a veterinarian's practice of business.
- C. Educational activities endorsed or accredited by the Association of Sanctuaries and the American Sanctuary Association"

SECTION TWO:

This ordinance was introduced on February 27, 2002.


PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of April 2002, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	Guerin, Holz, Houlihan.
NAYS:	Bond, Stocks.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	None.


Christy Guerin, Mayor

ATTESTATION AND CERTIFICATE:

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 2002-04, which has been published pursuant to law.


Deborah Cervone
City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 682

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
ROHNERT PARK CALIFORNIA
ADDING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 6.40
PROHIBITING THE DISPLAY OF WILD AND EXOTIC ANIMALS
FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT OR AMUSEMENT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROHNERT PARK
CALIFORNIA:

SECTION 6.40.010. Summary

It is the intent of the Rohnert Park City Council to protect the public against hazards that wild and exotic animals used in entertainment pose to society and to protect wild and exotic animals from cruel and inhumane treatment.

SECTION 6.40.020. Definitions

For the purpose of this chapter only, the following words and terms shall be deemed to mean and to be construed as follows:

- A. "Display" means to undertake any exhibition, act, circus, ride, trade show, carnival, parade, race, photographic opportunity, performance or similar undertaking in which animals are required to perform tricks, fight, or participate as accompaniments in performances for the amusement or benefit of an audience. "Display" shall not include the use or exhibition of animals for animal-related educational purposes by non-profit groups or institutions or individuals. "Displayed" means to be the subject thereof.

- B. "Domestic Animal" means any animal that is livestock, a companion animal, or both.
 - 1. "Livestock" means any animal commonly used by persons for use, draft, or pleasure purposes. The definition of "livestock" includes but is not limited to:
 - (a) Poultry
 - (b) Cattle
 - (c) Swine
 - (d) Sheep
 - (e) Goats
 - (f) Horses

2. "Companion animal" means any animal that is commonly kept by persons as a pet or for companionship. The definition of "companion animal" includes but is not limited to:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| (a) Domesticated dogs | (f) Hamsters |
| (b) Domesticated cats | (g) Horses |
| (c) Ferrets | (h) Mice |
| (d) Gerbils | (i) Rabbits |
| (e) Guinea Pigs | (j) Rats |

- C. "Educational purposes" means teaching and instructing with the intent and effect of imparting knowledge to others through oral presentations and written handouts.
- D. "Exhibition" means a public showing, presenting to view, a public display, an exposition, or a large fair of extended duration.
- E. "Person" means any individual, establishment, firm, association, organization, partnership, trust, corporation, or company.
- F. "Wild or exotic animal" means any or all of the following orders and families, whether bred in the wild or in captivity, and also any or all of their hybrids with domestic species. The animals listed in parentheses are intended to act as examples and are not to be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals, unless otherwise specified:
1. Non-human primates and prosimians (chimpanzees, monkeys)
 2. Felidae (except domesticated cats)
 3. Canidae (except domesticated dogs)
 4. Ursidae (bears)
 5. Proboscidae (elephants)
 6. Cetacea (whales, dolphins, porpoises)
 7. Crocodylia (alligators, crocodiles)
 8. Marsupialia (kangaroos, opossums)
 9. Reptilia over 8 ft. in length and snakes and reptiles of venomous variety
 10. Perissodactyla (rhinoceroses, tapirs, not horses or donkeys or mules)
 11. Artiodactyla (hippopotamuses, giraffes, camels, not cattle or swine or sheep or goats)
 12. Hyaenidae
 13. Mustelidae (skunks, weasels, otters, badgers)
 14. Procyonidae (raccoons, coatis)
 15. Edentata (anteaters, sloths, armadillos)
 16. Viverridae (mongooses, civets, and genets)
 17. Pinnipedia (seals, sea lions, walruses)
 18. Struthioniformes (ostriches)
 19. Casuariiformes (emus)

SECTION 6.40.030 Display of Wild or Exotic Animals Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to display or sponsor a display of wild or exotic animals on any public or private land within the City of Rohnert Park.

SECTION 6.40.040 Enforcement

Police officers and the City’s Animal Control Officers shall have the power and authority to enforce the provisions of this chapter and perform all duties imposed by the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 6.40.050 Penalty

Any person who displays or sponsors a display of wild or exotic animals shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than one-thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the city or county jail for a period not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment, such as is consistent with city law.

SECTION 6.40.060 Exceptions

The following are exempt from the provisions of this chapter:

- A. Institutions accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association,
- B. Veterinarians, in the ordinary course of a veterinarian’s practice of business,
- C. Institutions accredited by The Association of Sanctuaries and the American Sanctuary Association.
- D. Any person not otherwise included in these exceptions, may submit written evidence to the City Manager demonstrating that an additional exception should be granted because it is substantially similar to the purposes of the exceptions provided for in this section.

SECTION 6.40.070 Effective Date

This ordinance shall be in full force and effective 30 days after its adoption and publication or posting as required by law.

This Ordinance was introduced by the City Council of the City of Rohnert Park on the 9th day of July, 2002.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED this 23rd day of July, 2002.

CITY OF ROHNERT PARK

Mayor

ATTEST:

Deputy City Clerk Judy Hauff

APPROVED AS TO FORM: _____
City Attorney Betsy Strauss

ORDINANCE NO. NS-2669

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANTA ANA CHAPTER
5 OF THE SANTA ANA MUNICIPAL CODE PROHIBITING
THE DISPLAY OF WILD OR EXOTIC ANIMALS AT
CIRCUSES OR CARNIVALS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ANA DOES ORDAIN AS
FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Santa Ana hereby finds, determines and declares as follows:

- A. It is the intent of the City of Santa Ana to protect the public against health and safety risks that the use and display of exotic animals in temporary outdoor facilities for entertainment poses to the community as well as to protect the welfare of the individual animals.
- B. All provisions of the Santa Ana Municipal Code which are repeated herein are repeated solely in order to comply with the provisions of section 418 of the Charter of the City of Santa Ana. Any such restatement of existing provisions of the Code is not intended, nor shall it be interpreted, as constituting a new action or decision of the City Council, but rather such provisions are repeated for tracking purposes only in conformance with the Charter.

Section 2: That section 5-1 of the Santa Ana Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5-1. Definitions.

Unless the particular provisions or the context otherwise requires, the definitions and provisions contained in this section shall govern the construction, meaning, and application of words and phrases used in this chapter.

- (a) *Animal* includes, but is not limited to, birds, cats, dogs, fishes, fowl, rabbits, reptiles and nonhuman mammals.
- (b) *Bird* includes, but is not limited to, budgies, canaries, cardinals, cockatiels, cockatoos, doves, finches, lorries, lorikeets, lovebirds, macaws, parakeets, parrots, pigeons, sparrows, toucans and weavers.
- (c) *Commercial kennels* means any lot, building, structure, or premises where more than two (2) dogs over the age of four (4) months are kept or maintained for any purpose, including, but not limited to boarding, training or breeding, exclusive of dental, medical, or surgical care, or for quarantine purposes.

- (d) *Domesticated animal* means any dog, housecat (*felis catus*), livestock, rabbit, poultry or bird.
- (e) *Dog* includes any male, female, or neuter domesticated member of the species *canis familiaris*, but excludes other members of the family *canidae*.
- (f) *Estray* means any animal found running at large upon any land within the city.
- (g) *Fowl* means any larger domestic bird generally used for food and includes, but is not limited to, the chicken, duck, goose and turkey.
- (h) *Livestock* means animals kept for use on a farm and includes, but is not limited to, any swine, sheep, goat, horse, cattle, equine or bovine animal.
- (i) *Owner* means any person having title to any animal, or a person who has, harbors, or keeps, or who causes or permits to be harbored or kept, an animal in his care, or who permits an animal to remain on or about his premises for a period of thirty (30) consecutive days.
- (j) *Premises* means a parcel of land.
- (k) *Quarantine* means the isolation of any animal within a substantial enclosure to avoid its contact with other animals or unauthorized persons.
- (l) *Running at large* means free of restraint beyond the boundaries of the premises of the owner or custodian.
- (m) *Vaccination* means a protective inoculation against rabies with an anti-rabies vaccine recognized and approved by the Orange County Health Department.
- (n) *Vicious animal* means any animal which has bitten or broken the skin of, or in any manner attacked or attempted to attack any person or any animal within the City of Santa Ana.
- (o) *Wild animal* means any animal which is either:
 - (1) Not a domesticated animal, or
 - (2) A vicious animal over which the owner has evidenced a failure to maintain control.
- (p) *Exotic animal* means nonhuman primates and prosimians (such as chimpanzees, monkeys); felids, except domesticated cats; ursids (bears);

elephants; crocodilians (such as alligators and crocodiles); ungulates (such as hippopotamus, rhinoceros, giraffes, zebra); and camels. These terms shall apply whether the animal is bred in the wild or in captivity. It is not the intent of this definition to include domesticated species such as horses, cows, sheep, or llamas among the animals listed above.

Section 3: That section 5-8 of the Santa Ana Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5-8. Wild Animals--Permit--Exception.

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or maintain, or cause to be kept or maintained, any wild animal without first, applying for and receiving a permit from the animal control officer, except that no permit is required to keep or maintain the following wild animals: chinchillas, chipmunks, guinea pigs, hamsters, turtles, tropical fish (except caribee), nonpoisonous snakes, where permitted by state and federal law, white mice and white rats. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit the keeping or maintaining of wild animals in bona fide, licensed veterinary hospitals for treatment.

Section 4: That section 5-8.5 is hereby added to the Santa Ana Municipal Code to read as follows:

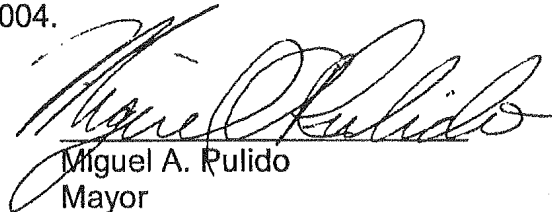
Sec. 5-8.5 Wild or Exotic Animals – Circus or Carnival – Exception

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or display a wild animal or exotic animal at a circus or carnival or similar use, including but not limited to temporary outdoor activities regulated by chapter 41 of this code.

(b) This section shall not apply to any wild animals or exotic animals which are kept or displayed at a zoo or museum, or similar use as determined by the animal control officer.

Section 5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council of the City of Santa Ana hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

ADOPTED this 4th day of October, 2004.


Miguel A. Rulido
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Joseph W. Fletcher, City Attorney

By: 
Benjamin Kaufman
Chief Assistant City Attorney

AYES: Councilmembers: Alvarez, Bist, Christy, Franklin, Garcia, Pulido,
Solorio (7)

NOES: Councilmembers: None (0)

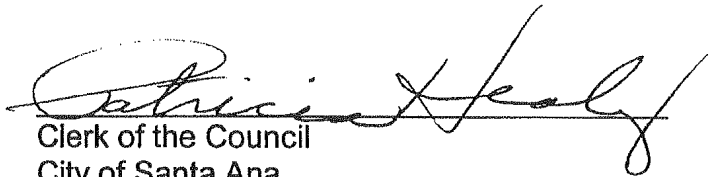
ABSENT: Councilmembers: None (0)

ABSTAIN: Councilmembers: None (0)

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION AND ORIGINALITY

I, PATRICIA E. HEALY, Clerk of the Council, do hereby attest to and certify that the attached Ordinance No. NS-2669 to be the original ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Santa Ana on October 18, 2004, and that said ordinance was published in accordance with the Charter of the City of Santa Ana.

Date: 11/12/04


Clerk of the Council
City of Santa Ana

last action:
died 7/23/04

SENATE, NO. 184

By Mr. Hedlund, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No.184) of Robert L. Hedlund for legislation to prohibit the use of exotic animals in traveling shows and circuses and establishing fines for violations. Criminal Justice

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



In the Year Two Thousand and Three.

PROHIBITING THE USE OF EXOTIC ANIMALS IN TRAVELING SHOWS AND CIRCUSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 272 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 79B, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, the following section: -

Section 79C. (a) As used in this section the following definitions apply: (1) "Circus" means any entity featuring exhibits for the purpose of entertainment and includes, but is not limited to, exhibitions and performances by clowns, acrobats and/or animals. (2) "Display" means an undertaking where animals are required to perform tricks, fight, or participate as accompaniments in performances for the purpose of entertainment. "Display" shall not include the use or exhibition of animals for educational purposes. "Displayed" means to be the subject thereof. (3) "Educational purpose" means teaching and instructing with the intent and effect of imparting knowledge to others through oral presentations and written handouts (whose sole purpose is to teach without entertainment). (4) "Entertainment" means that which does not constitute an educational purpose. (5) "Exotic animal" means any or all of the following orders and families, whether bred in the wild or in captivity, and whether or not native to Massachusetts, and also any or all of their hybrids with domestic species. The animals listed in parentheses are intended to act as examples and are not to be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals, unless otherwise specified: a. Non-human primates and prosimians (all species) b. Felidae (all wild cats and hybrids thereof, except domesticated cats) c. Ursidae (all bears) d. Proboscidae (all elephants) (6) "Person" means an

individual, partnership, corporation, joint venture, association, trust, estate, or any other legal entity, and any officer, member, shareholder, director, employee, agent, or representative of these. (7) "Traveling show" means any exhibit, exhibition, act, circus, public show, trade show, photographic opportunity, carnival, fair, ride, parade, race performance, or similar undertaking in which animals, perform tricks, fight, or participate in performances, and that is temporarily located in a city or county of Massachusetts. (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct or operate a display of exotic animals at or in a traveling show or circus. (c) Any person, firm, or corporation violating this section shall be fined not more than \$5000.00 dollars per animal per display or be imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

Local Restrictions Governing Traveling Shows and Circuses in the U.S. and Canada

United States

California

- Corona - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
 - Encinitas - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
 - Huntington Beach - Bans display of exotic animals.
 - Marin County - Regulates animal acts.
 - Newport Beach - Proclamation from Mayor that city will not display wild or exotic animals for entertainment.
 - Pasadena - Bans display of wild or exotic animals and rodeos on city property; restricts displays of domestic animals.
 - Rohnert Park - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
 - Santa Ana - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
-

Colorado

- Boulder - Bans display of exotic animals.
 - Estes Park - Bans exhibition of wildlife.
-

Connecticut

- Stamford - Bans carnivals, circuses, and wild west shows.
-

Florida

- Hollywood - Bans animal displays.
 - Lauderdale Lakes - Bans exhibition of wild and exotic animals.
 - Pompano Beach - Bans animal displays on City property except for educational purposes; regulates display of animals on private property.
-

Hawaii

- Maui County - Bans the display of cetaceans (whales and dolphins).
-

Indiana

- St. John - Bans performing animal exhibitions.
-

Maryland

- Takoma Park - Bans animal displays.
-

Massachusetts

- Braintree - Town meeting members voted not to allow displays of non-domesticated animals for entertainment.
 - Provincetown - Bans the display of wild animals for entertainment.
 - Quincy - Bans the use of wild animals in circuses, carnivals, and competitive events.
 - Revere - Bans the display of wild animals for entertainment.
 - Weymouth - Bans circuses with animal acts.
-

Missouri

- Richmond - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
-

New York

- Greenburgh - Bans wild or exotic animals from circuses; prohibits all rodeos on town property; bans exotic and wild animal species from "parades, carnivals, races, rides, public shows, trade shows, photo opportunities, or similar undertakings in which animals perform tricks, fight or participate in performances for amusement."
 - Southampton - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
 - Wallkill - Bans public contact with exotic cats and bears.
-

North Carolina

- Chapel Hill - Prohibits the display of wild and exotic animals.
 - Orange County - Bans the display of wild or exotic animals.
-

Vermont

Dundee - Bans the display of wild or exotic animals

- Burlington - Bans the display of wild or exotic animals.
-

Virginia

- Fairfax - Regulates public display of animals.
 - Fairfax County - Bans physical contact between people and exhibited exotic animals. Elephants used for rides are exempted.
 - Spotsylvania County - Bans physical contact between people and exhibited exotic animals.
-

Washington

- Redmond - Bans wild or exotic animal displays.
 - Port Townsend – Bans the display of wild or exotic animals.
-

Wisconsin

- Madison - Bans public displays of cougars and bears.
-

Canada

British Columbia

- Burnaby
- Chilliwack
- Coquitlam
- Delta
- Kamloops
- Kelowna
- Langley
- Nanaimo
- New Westminster
- North Vancouver
- Parksville
- Salmon Arm

- Sannich
 - Surrey
 - Vancouver
 - Victoria
-

Newfoundland

- Mount Pearl
 - St. John's
-

Nova Scotia

- Argyle
 - Digby
 - Shelburne
 - Yarmouth
-

Ontario

- East Gwillimbury
- Erin
- Guelph
- Manitouwadge
- Puslinch

Pittsburgh City Code re Rodeos Enacted July, 1992

CHAPTER 635: OTHER ANIMALS AND FOWL

[§ 635.01 Definitions](#)

[§ 635.02 Fowl at large](#)

[§ 635.03 Riding or driving prohibited; exception](#)

[§ 635.04 Use of painful techniques and devices prohibited at rodeos](#)

[§ 635.05 Notification of rodeo required](#)

[§ 635.06 Humane agent access to rodeos](#)

[§ 635.07 Presence of veterinarian required at rodeos](#)

[§ 635.08 Violation and penalty](#)

§ 635.01 DEFINITIONS.

- (a) Humane Agency means a duly incorporated animal protection or animal welfare organization authorized to enforce Section 5511 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.
- (b) Humane agent means a representative of a duly incorporated animal protection or animal welfare organization authorized to enforce Section 5511 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.
- (Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.02 FOWL AT LARGE.

No person being the owner or in charge of any chickens, geese, ducks, turkey or other fowl shall permit the same to run at large upon any public place, unenclosed lands or the premises of another.

(Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.03 RIDING OR DRIVING PROHIBITED; EXCEPTION.

No person shall ride or drive any animal drawn conveyance on any street or sidewalk within the city, except such as the Superintendent of Police may permit in a parade or other special event, or except that the Director of the Department of Public Works may authorize horse drawn carriages on designated streets in the Central Business District at designated times.

(Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.04 USE OF PAINFUL TECHNIQUES AND DEVICES PROHIBITED AT RODEOS.

No rodeo or rodeo related event shall be permitted in which animals are induced or encouraged to perform through the use of any practice or technique, or any chemical, mechanical, electrical or manual device that will cause, or is likely to cause physical injury, torment or suffering. The following devices are specifically prohibited at all events: electric prods or shocking devices, flank or bucking straps, wire tie-downs, and sharpened or fixed spurs or rowels.

(Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.05 NOTIFICATION OF RODEO REQUIRED.

An appropriate humane agency shall be notified by the promoter and/or sponsors of any rodeo event not less than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the rodeo event taking place.

(Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.06 HUMANE AGENT ACCESS TO RODEOS.

Humane agents shall be provided access to the areas where animals have been present, will be present or are then present. Specifically included are the holding pens, chutes and injury pens. Humane agents shall be accompanied by a representative of the rodeo or rodeo related activity. (Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.07 PRESENCE OF VETERINARIAN REQUIRED AT RODEOS.

The presence of a licensed veterinarian specializing in either equine or bovine veterinary medicine, shall be required during the entirety of all rodeos and rodeo related activities. The veterinarian shall have access to the complete site where animals have been present, will be present or are then present. The veterinarian shall have complete and unilateral authority over the treatment and utilization of rodeo animals and/or livestock. In the event it is the decision of the veterinarian that an animal is unable to be utilized, that decision shall be communicated to the stock contractor for compliance.

(Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)

§ 635.08 VIOLATION AND PENALTY.

(a) Unless otherwise provided, whoever violates §§ 635.02 or 635.03 of this Chapter shall be fined one hundred dollars (\$100.00) plus costs if it is a first offense. The penalty shall be three hundred dollars (\$300.00) plus costs for subsequent offenses.

(b) Every separate act committed in violation of any other provision of this Chapter shall constitute a separate and distinct offense and shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and/or a term of imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days.

(Ord. 29-1992, eff. 7-16-92)