

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

REC'D - USDA/OALJ/OHC
2019 APR 22 AM 10:44

In re:)
)
STEPHANIE TAUNTON, an individual) AWA Docket No. 14-0157
doing business as BOW WOW)
PRODUCTIONS and HESPERIA ZOO,)
)
Respondent,)

Consent Decision and Order

These proceedings were instituted under the Animal Welfare Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. § 2131 *et seq.*), by a Complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), alleging that Stephanie Taunton (Respondent), willfully violated the Act and the regulations issued pursuant to the Act (9 C.F.R. § 1.1 *et seq.*). This decision is entered pursuant to the consent decision provisions of the Rules of Practice applicable to this proceeding (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

Respondent Stephanie Taunton admits the jurisdictional allegations in the Complaint and specifically admits that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admits nor denies the remaining allegations, waives oral hearing and further procedure, and consents and agrees, for the purpose of settling these proceeding, to the entry of this decision.

The Administrator of APHIS agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent Stephanie Taunton is an individual who does business as Bow Wow Productions and Hesperia Zoo, and whose mailing address is (b) (6)
(b) (6)
2. At all times mentioned herein, respondent was an exhibitor, as that term is defined in the Act and the Regulations, and has held AWA license 93-C-0862 since December 23, 2008.

Conclusions of Law

Respondent, having admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties having agreed to the entry of this consent decision and order, the consent decision and order will be entered.

Order

Respondent, her agents and employees, successors and assigns, directly or indirectly, or through any corporate or other device, shall cease and desist from violating the Act and the regulations and standards issued thereunder.

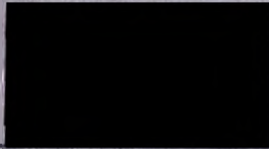
Pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 2149(b), Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of fourteen thousand nine-hundred ninety-nine dollars and ninety-four cents (\$14,999.94) to be satisfied as follows:

1. Respondent shall send a certified check or money order for eight-hundred thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents (\$833.33), payable to the Treasurer of the United States to USDA APHIS, P.O. Box 790335, St. Louis, Missouri 63179-0335 within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this order as determined by the issuing Administrative Law Judge.
2. Respondent shall send additional certified checks or money orders for eight-hundred thirty-three and thirty-three cents (\$833.33) each, payable to the Treasurer of the United States to USDA APHIS, P.O. Box 790335, St. Louis, Missouri 63179-0335 by the last business day of each consecutive month thereafter, beginning with the month subsequent to the execution of this order, up and until Respondent completes her remaining obligation.
3. Respondent acknowledges that, if she fails to comply with the payment terms of this civil penalty, the any remaining unpaid amount of the \$14,999.94 will be due and payable within 10 days of receipt of written notice from Complainant for Respondent's failure to comply.

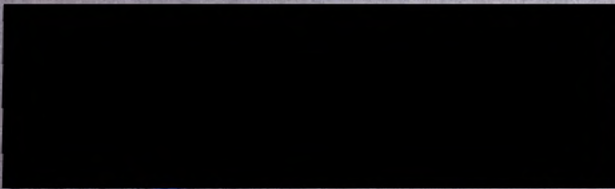
The provisions of this Order shall become effective on the filing of this Consent Decision and order.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

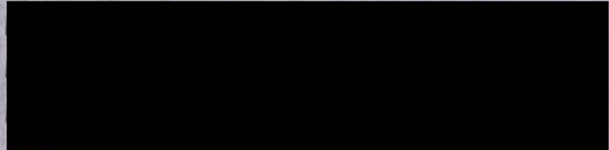
JONATHAN
GORDY



Jonathan D. Gordy
Attorney for Complainant



James A. Alderson
Attorney for Respondent



Chief

Administrative Law Judge
Channing D. Strother