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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------------|---------|
| In re: |) | AWA Docket Nos. | 16-0094 |
| |) | | 16-0095 |
| KEITH and LILA RATZLAFF, |) | | |
| |) | | |
| Respondents. |) | CONSENT DECISION | |
| |) | AND ORDER | |

This proceeding was instituted under the Animal Welfare Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq.)(AWA or Act), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (APHIS), on April 19, 2016, alleging that the respondents willfully violated the Act and the regulations and standards issued pursuant to the Act (9 C.F.R. § 1.1 et seq.)(Regulations and Standards). 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).

Respondents admit the jurisdictional allegations in the complaint and specifically admit that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admit nor deny the remaining allegations, waive oral hearing and further procedure, and consent and agree, for the purpose of settling this proceeding, to the entry of this decision. The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. At all times mentioned in the complaint, respondents Keith and Lila Ratzlaff were individuals, whose business address was 833 25th Road, Canton, Kansas 67428. At all times mentioned in the complaint, respondents were a dealer, as that term is defined in the Act and the Regulations. Respondents Keith and Lila Ratzlaff held AWA license number 48-A-1793.

Conclusions of Law

Respondents having admitted the findings and conclusions set forth above, and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

Order

1. Respondents, their agents and employees, successors and assigns, directly or through any corporate or other device, shall cease and desist from violating the Act and the Regulations and Standards issued thereunder.

2. AWA license 48-A-1793 is hereby revoked, effective August 26, 2016.

The provisions of this order shall become effective immediately. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

[Redacted Signature]

KEITH RATZLAFF
Respondent

[Redacted Signature]

LILA RATZLAFF
Respondent

[Redacted Signature]

KURTIS REEG
Attorney for Respondents

[Redacted Signature]

RUPA CHILUKURI
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.,

this 9 day of sept 2016

[Redacted Signature]

Jill S. Clifton
Administrative Law Judge