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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:

)	HPA Docket Nos.
Rachel M. Castaldi,)	13-0372
)	15-0099
Respondent.)	
)	
)	CONSENT DECISION

This proceeding was instituted under the Horse Protection Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. §1821 et seq.), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the Respondent violated the Act. The parties have agreed that this Consent Decision should be issued in accordance with the consent decision provisions of the applicable rules of practice (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in paragraph I of 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 this proceeding and for such purpose only, to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent Rachel M. Castaldi is an individual who resides in (b) (6). At all times mentioned herein the Respondent is the owner of the horse known as "Sundust With Attitude."

2. On March 14, 2013, the Respondent Rachel M. Castaldi allowed the entry for the purpose of showing or exhibiting the horse known as "Sundust With Attitude" as entry number 32 in class number 21A, at the 2013 National Walking Horse Trainer's Show in Shelbyville, TN.

3. On April 2, 2011 respondent Rachel Castaldi entered and allowed the entry of the horse known as "Bee Bee King," entry number 4, class number 73, at the Mississippi Charity Horse Show in Jackson, MS.

Conclusions

The Respondent has admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties have agreed to the provisions set forth in the following Order, this Consent Decision will be issued.

Order

1. Respondent Rachel M. Castaldi is disqualified for period of two (2) years from the effective date of this Consent Decision.

2. During the period of disqualification, the Respondent shall be disqualified from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device, and from judging, managing or otherwise participating in any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction. "Participating" means engaging in any activity beyond that of a spectator, and includes, without limitation, transporting or arranging for the transportation of horses to or from equine events, personally giving instructions to exhibitors, being present in the warm-up or inspection areas, or in any area where spectators are not allowed, and financing the participation of others in equine events.

3. During the two years from December 11, 2015, the effective date of this Order, the Respondent shall not gift or otherwise transfer ownership, title, or custody of any of her horses to any actual or potential participant in any horse show or exhibition.

4. This order shall have the same effect as if entered after a full hearing and shall become final and effective upon issuance by the Administrative Law Judge.

5. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.



RACHEL M. CASTALDI
Respondent

KARIN CAGLE
Attorney for Respondent

BRIAN HILL
Attorney for Complainant



LAUREN BECKER
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 16 day of Dec, 2015



JILL S. CLIFTON
Administrative Law Judge

AND

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 16 day of Dec, 2015



for
Janice K. Bullard
Administrative Law Judge