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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:) AWA Docket No. 08-0156
)
Christina Burford, d/b/a The)
C.A.R.E. Foundation, Inc.,) Consent Decision
) and Order
Respondent)

This proceeding was 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, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the respondent willfully violated the Act and the regulations and standards 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).

The 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.

The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

A. Christina Burford, hereinafter referred to as the respondent, is an individual doing business as The C.A.R.E. Foundation, Inc., with a current mailing address of 4609 West Ponkon Road, Apopka, Florida 32712.

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B. The respondent, at all times material herein, was licensed and operating as an exhibitor as defined in the Act and the regulations.

Conclusions

The respondent having admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

Order

1. Respondent, her 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, and in particular, shall cease and desist from:

- (a) Failing to establish and maintain programs of disease control and prevention, euthanasia, and adequate veterinary care under the supervision and assistance of a doctor of veterinary medicine;
- (b) Failing to properly tag animals;
- (c) Failing to allow inspection of her premises and records;
- (d) Failing to maintain adequate medical records on the animals;
- (e) Failing to construct and maintain housing facilities for animals so that they are structurally sound and in good repair in order to protect the animals from injury, contain them securely, and restrict other animals from entering;
- (f) Failing to store supplies of food and bedding so as to adequately protect them against contamination;
- (g) Failing to provide animals with adequate shelter from the elements;
- (h) Failing keep water receptacles clean and sanitized;

(i) Failing to keep the premises clean and in good repair and free of accumulations of trash, junk, waste, and discarded matter, and to control weeds, grasses and bushes; and

(j) Failing to maintain animals in primary enclosures in compatible groups.

2. The respondent is assessed a civil penalty of \$2,500.00 which shall be paid by a certified check or money order made payable to the Treasurer of United States.

3. The respondent, who does not currently hold a license, is further barred from holding a license for a period of thirty (30) days and continuing thereafter until the respondent demonstrates to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service that she is in full compliance with the Act, the regulations and standards issued thereunder, and this order, including payment of the civil penalty imposed herein.

The provisions of this order shall become effective on the first day after service of this decision on the respondent.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

[Redacted signature]

Christina Burford
Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Brian Hill
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 17th day of July, 2009.

[Redacted signature]

Administrative Law Judge