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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:)	AWA Docket No. 07-0184
)	
TIGER RESCUE, a California corporation;)	
JOHN HANS WEINHART, an individual;)	
MARLA SMITH, an individual; and)	
WENDELIN R. RINGEL, an individual,)	CONSENT DECISION AS TO
)	RESPONDENT WENDELIN R.
Respondents.)	RINGEL

This proceeding was instituted under the Animal Welfare Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. § 2131 *et seq.*) (the "Act"), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the respondents willfully violated 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).

Respondent Wendelin R. Ringel 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 this proceeding, to the entry of this decision. The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

Respondent Wendelin R. Ringel is an individual whose address is 764 East 3rd Street, Beaumont, California 92223. At all times mentioned herein, respondent Ringel was respondent Tiger Rescue's attending veterinarian, and was acting for respondents Tiger Rescue and Weinhart pursuant to section 2139 of the Act (7 U.S.C. § 2139), for the purpose of construing or enforcing the provisions of the Act.

Conclusion

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

Order

Respondent Wendelin R. Ringel, 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. The provisions of this order shall become effective upon the filing of this consent decision and order. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties

[Redacted signature]

Wendelin R. Ringel
Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Colleen A. Carroll
Attorney for Complainant

Chicago, Illinois

Done at Washington, D.C. *ysc*
the ~~5~~ day of Dec, 2009

this 10th day of Dec

[Redacted signature]

Jill S. Clifton
Administrative Law Judge