

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



In re:

AWA Docket No. 11-0027

*CA* ~~JAMES LEE RIGGS, an individual; ERIC JOHN~~  
~~DROGOSCH, an individual; THOMAS R. LEASE,~~  
~~an individual; and JOSEPH M. ESTES, an~~  
~~individual,~~

CONSENT DECISION  
AND ORDER AS TO  
RESPONDENT  
THOMAS R. LEASE

Respondents. *CA*

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 Thomas R. Lease 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 Thomas R. Lease is an individual whose mailing address is c/o Fairview Christian Congregation, Post Office O Box 865, Farmersville, Texas 75442. At all times mentioned herein, said respondent was (1) operating as an exhibitor, as that term is defined in the Act and the Regulations; or (2) acting for or employed by an exhibitor and his acts, omissions or failures within the scope of his employment or office are, pursuant to section 2139 of the Act (7 U.S.C. § 2139),

deemed to be his own acts, omissions, or failures, as well as the acts, omissions, or failures of such exhibitor. Until May 10, 2005, respondent Lease held AWA license number 74-C-0286.

Conclusion

Respondent Thomas R. Lease has admitted the facts set forth above and the parties have agreed to the entry of this decision. Therefore, such decision will be entered.

Order

1. Respondent Thomas R. Lease, his 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.

*CAC*  
*2/5/13*  
*W*

2. ~~Respondent Thomas R. Lease is permanently disqualified from becoming licensed under the Animal Welfare Act.~~ *Respondent Thomas R. Lease is permanently disqualified from becoming licensed under the Animal Welfare Act.*  
~~Animal Welfare Act license 74-C-0286 is hereby revoked~~

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

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Thomas R. Lease  
Respondent

[Redacted signature area]

*CAC* ~~Burch W. Kidd~~ *Colleen A. Carroll*  
Attorney for Complainant

*Ft. Worth, Texas*  
Done at ~~Washington, D.C.~~  
this 9 day of JULY, 2013 *CAC*

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Jill S. Clifton  
Administrative Law Judge