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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re: LARRY EDWARDS; and CARL EDWARDS & SONS STABLES, INC., Respondent.	HPA Docket 14-0002 HPA Docket 14-0004
In re: GARY EDWARDS; and CARL EDWARDS & SONS STABLES, INC., Respondents.	HPA Docket 14-0007 HPA Docket 14-0009
In re: LARRY EDWARDS; PAIGE EDWARDS; and CARL EDWARDS & SONS STABLES, INC., Respondents.	HPA Docket 14-0010 HPA Docket 14-0011 HPA Docket 14-0012
In re: LARRY EDWARDS; GARY EDWARDS; and CARL EDWARDS & SONS STABLES, INC., Respondents.	HPA Docket 14-0014 HPA Docket 14-0015 HPA Docket 14-0016 CONSENT DECISION AND ORDER AS TO LARRY EDWARDS AND CARL EDWARDS & SONS STABLES, INC.

These proceedings were instituted under the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. § 1821 *et seq.*)(HPA or Act), by complaints filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (APHIS), on October 18, 2013, and October 30, 2013, alleging that the respondents violated the Act.

Respondents Larry Edwards and Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., admit the jurisdictional allegations in the complaints as to them, specifically admit that the Secretary has jurisdiction in these matters, neither admit nor deny the remaining allegations, and waive oral hearing and further procedure. The complainant and respondents Larry Edwards and Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., consent and agree to the entry of this decision for the purpose of settling these proceedings as to them. This decision is entered pursuant to the consent decision provisions of the Rules of Practice applicable to these proceedings (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

Findings of Fact

1. Respondent Larry Edwards is an individual residing in [redacted] and at all times mentioned herein was a "person" and an "exhibitor," as those terms are defined in the regulations promulgated under the Act (9 C.F.R. Parts 11 and 12)(Regulations).

2. Respondent Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., is a Georgia corporation (No. K215216) that was administratively dissolved on December 31, 2015, and, to date, has not been reinstated. At all times mentioned herein, respondent Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., was a "person" and an "exhibitor," as those terms are defined in the Regulations.

3. On or about August 24, 2012, respondent Larry Edwards showed a horse (He's Unleashed) in class 51B in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

4. On or about August 24, 2012, respondent Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., showed a horse (He's Unleashed) in class 51B in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

5. On or about August 26, 2010, respondent Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., showed a horse (A Victoria Secret) in class 30 in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

6. On or about August 25, 2012, respondent Larry Edwards entered a horse (I'm Tex-Anna) for showing in class 73B in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

7. On or about August 25, 2012, respondent Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., entered a horse (I'm Tex-Anna) for showing in class 73B in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

8. On or about August 26, 2010, respondent Larry Edwards showed a horse (Generating the Command) in class 129A in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

9. On or about August 26, 2010, respondent Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., showed a horse (Generating the Command) in class 129A in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

Conclusions of Law

Respondents Larry Edwards and Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., having admitted the findings of fact set forth above, and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

Order

1. Respondents Larry Edwards and Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., are disqualified for eight months, beginning September 2, 2018, and ending May 1, 2019, from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device, and from judging, managing or otherwise participating[1] in any horse show, horse

[1]"Participating" means engaging in any activity beyond that of a spectator in connection with a horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction, 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.

exhibition, or horse sale or auction, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device.

2. Respondents Larry Edwards and Carl Edwards & Sons Stables, Inc., are assessed a joint and several civil penalty of $3,850, which shall be paid by March 1, 2019, by check or checks made payable to USDA/APHIS, indicating that the payment is in reference to HPA Dockets Nos. 14-0002, 14-0004, 14-0009, 14-0010, 14-0012, 14-0014, and 14-0016, and sent to:

USDA, APHIS, MISCELLANEOUS
P.O. Box 979043
St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000

The provisions of this order shall be final and effective as of September 2, 2018. This order may be executed in counterparts. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

CARL EDWARDS & SONS STABLES, INC.
a Georgia corporation
Respondent

By [redacted]
Larry E. Edwards
Its Chief Executive Officer

[redacted]
Larry E. Edwards
Respondent

[redacted]
Colleen A. Carroll
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.,
this 14 day of Feb 2019

[redacted]
Jill. S. Clifton
Administrative Law Judge