

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:	)	HPA Docket 17-0196
	)	HPA Docket 17-0197
ALIAS FAMILY INVESTMENTS, LLC,	)	HPA Docket 17-0199
a Mississippi limited liability company;	)	HPA Docket 17-0201
MARGARET ANNE ALIAS, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0202
TAMMY BARCLAY, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0203
NOEL BOTSCH, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0205
LYNSEY DENNEY, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0206
MIKKI ELDRIDGE, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0208
JEFFREY GREEN, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0209
WILLIAM TY IRBY, an individual;	)	HPA Docket 17-0210
JOYCE MEADOWS, an individual;	)	
JOYCE H. MYERS, an individual; and	)	
LIBBY STEPHENS, an individual,	)	
	)	CONSENT DECISION AND
Respondents.	)	ORDER AS TO RESPONDENT
	)	MARGARET ANNE ALIAS

This proceeding was instituted under the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. § 1821 *et seq.*)(HPA or Act), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (APHIS), on February 3, 2017, alleging that the respondents violated the Act.

Respondent Margaret Anne Alias admits the jurisdictional allegations in the complaint, specifically admits that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admits nor denies the remaining allegations, and waives oral hearing and further procedure. The parties consent and agree to the entry of this decision for the purpose of settling this proceeding as to respondent Margaret Anne Alias and resolving any and all other alleged or potential violations of the Act by her occurring up to and including September 2, 2017. 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).

### Findings of Fact

1. Respondent Margaret Anne Alias 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).

2. On or about September 3, 2016, respondent Margaret Anne Alias entered a horse (Our Commander in Chief), for the purpose of showing the horse, in class 187 in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

### Conclusion of Law

Respondent Margaret Anne Alias 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. Respondent Margaret Anne Alias is disqualified for four months, either (initial one):

\_\_\_\_\_ beginning September 4, 2017, and ending January 3, 2018, or

*MAA/CAC*  
\_\_\_\_\_ beginning January 1, 2018, and ending April 30, 2018,

from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device, and from judging, managing or otherwise participating<sup>1</sup> in any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device.

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<sup>1</sup>"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.

2. Respondent Margaret Anne Alias is assessed a civil penalty of \$550, which shall be paid by October 1, 2017, by check made payable to USDA/APHIS, indicating that the payment is in reference to HPA Docket No. 17-0197, and sent to:

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

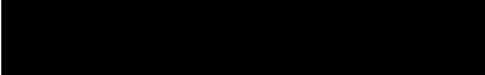
The provisions of this order shall become final and effective as of September 4, 2017.

This order may be executed in counterparts. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

  
Margaret Anne Alias  
Respondent

  
Colleen A. Carroll  
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.,  
this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017

  
Channing D. Strother  
Administrative Law Judge

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Complete items 1, 2, and 3.</li> <li>■ Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.</li> <li>■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.</li> </ul>	A. Signature <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Addressee</span> <b>X</b>																	
1. Article Addressed to: <div style="background-color: black; width: 200px; height: 100px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 200px; height: 50px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> 2. Article Number (transfer from service label) <div style="background-color: black; width: 200px; height: 20px; margin: 5px 0;"></div>	B. Received by (Printed Name)	C. Date of Delivery																
D. Is delivery address different from item 1? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If YES, enter delivery address below: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No  <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive;">             Consent Decision              17-0197 + Order           </div>																		
3. Service Type <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail Express®</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail™</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail®</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail Restricted Delivery</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation™</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority Mail Express®	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail™	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail®	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered Mail Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt for Merchandise	<input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation™	<input type="checkbox"/> Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail		<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail																		
<input type="checkbox"/> Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)																		
PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053		Domestic Return Receipt																

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PS Form 3800, August 2006
See Reverse for Instructions

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Respondents

Alias Family Investments, LLC  
Margaret Anne Alias  
Tammy Barclay  
Noel Botsch  
Lynsey Denney  
Mikki Eldridge  
Jeffrey Green  
William Ty Irby  
Joyce Meadows  
Joyce H. Myers  
Libby Stephens

Docket Numbers

17-0196  
17-0197  
17-0199  
17-0201  
17-0202  
17-0203  
17-0205  
17-0206  
17-0208  
17-0209  
17-0210

Having personal knowledge of the foregoing, I declare under penalty of perjury that the information herein is true and correct and this is to certify that a copy of the CONSENT DECISION AND ORDER AS TO RESPONDENT ALIAS FAMILY INVESTMENTS, LLC and CONSENT DECISION AND ORDER AS TO RESPONDENT MARGARET ANNE ALIAS has been furnished and was served upon the following parties on September 7, 2017 by the following:

USDA OGC - Electronic Mail

Colleen Carroll, OGC  
[Colleen.Carroll@ogc.usda.gov](mailto:Colleen.Carroll@ogc.usda.gov)  
Ada Quick, OGC  
[Ada.Quick@ogc.usda.gov](mailto:Ada.Quick@ogc.usda.gov)

USDA (APHIS) - Electronic Mail

[IESLegals@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:IESLegals@aphis.usda.gov)  
[Ac.rss.mailbox@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Ac.rss.mailbox@aphis.usda.gov)

Respondents – Certified / Electronic Mail

Alias Family Investments, LLC  
Margaret Anne Alias

(b) (6)

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Caroline Hill, Assistant Hearing Clerk  
USDA/Office of Administrative Law Judges  
Hearing Clerk's Office, Rm. 1031-S  
1400 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20250-9203