



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:) Docket Nos. 13-0232 and 13-0233
)
Alvin Strickland and)
Toni Strickland,)
)
Respondents.)

CONSENT DECISION AND ORDER

This proceeding was instituted under the Horse Protection Act ("Act"), as amended (15 U.S.C. § 1821 et seq.), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that Alvin Strickland and Toni Strickland (hereinafter referred to jointly as "Respondents") violated the Act. 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).

Respondents admit the jurisdictional allegations of the complaint and specifically admit that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admit nor deny the remaining allegations, waive oral hearing and further procedure, and consent and agree, 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

1. Respondents are individuals whose mailing address at all times relevant to the complaint is (b) (6).
2. Respondents entered a horse known as "Jose's Dark N Stormy" as Entry No. 913,

Class No. 31, at the 59th Annual Waynesville Lions Club Horse Show at the Haywood County Fairgrounds, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

Conclusions


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


Order

Respondents are disqualified for an uninterrupted period of 1 year beginning on March 1, 2015, from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device, and from judging, managing or otherwise participating in any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction. "Participating" means engaging in any activity beyond that of a spectator, 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.

This order shall have the same effect as if entered after a full hearing and 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.


Alvin Strickland
Respondent


Toni Strickland
Respondent


Brian T. Hill
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 12th day of MARCH, 20 15


Administrative Law Judge

JANICE K. BULLARD