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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

|                                   |   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re:                            | ) | HPA Docket No. 17-0034 |
|                                   | ) | HPA Docket No. 17-0035 |
| GAYLE HOLCOMB, an individual;     | ) | HPA Docket No. 17-0036 |
| BOB LAWRENCE, an individual;      | ) | HPA Docket No. 17-0037 |
| JOSEPH AARON SELF, an individual; | ) | HPA Docket No. 17-0038 |
| JEFF SMITH, an individual; and    | ) |                        |
| CHAD WILLIAMS, an individual,     | ) |                        |
|                                   | ) | CONSENT DECISION AND   |
| Respondents.                      | ) | ORDER AS TO RESPONDENT |
|                                   | ) | BOB LAWRENCE           |

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 December 23, 2016, alleging that the respondents violated the Act.

Respondent Bob Lawrence 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 Mr. Lawrence, and resolving any and all other alleged or potential violations of the Act by him occurring up to and including September 4, 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 Bob Lawrence 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).

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2. On or about August 27, 2016, respondent Lawrence allowed the entry of a horse he owned (Full Back), for the purpose of showing the horse, in class 83 in a horse show in Shelbyville, Tennessee.

Conclusion of Law

Respondent Bob Lawrence 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 Bob Lawrence is disqualified for four months, 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.

2. Respondent Bob Lawrence is assessed a civil penalty of \$550, which shall be paid by November 1, 2017, by check made payable to USDA/APHIS, indicating that the payment is in reference to HPA Docket No. 17-0035, and sent to:

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

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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.

The provisions of this order shall be final and effective on November 1, 2017. This order may be executed in counterparts. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

[Redacted signature]

Bob Lawrence  
Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Dale S. Davidson  
Attorney for Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Colleen A. Carroll  
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.,  
this 4 day of APR 2017 2018

[Redacted]

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~~Bobbie J. McCartney~~  
Chief Administrative Law Judge

Jill S. Clifton