

Shrine Circuses

Shrine circuses don't possess their own animal exhibitor licenses from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), so they're not subject to citations under the name "Shrine Circus." Local Shrine chapters hire an outside company—such as [Tarzan Zerbini Circus](#), [Carden International Circus](#), [Jordan World Circus](#), [Royal Hanneford Circus](#), [Circus Hollywood](#), Circus United, Hamid Circus, or Cindy Migley Productions—to produce the circus. The producers may hire animal acts from exhibitors such as [Franzen Bros. Circus](#), [Carson & Barnes Circus](#), [Circus Pages](#), Jennifer Caudill, and others.

Because Shrine temples hire their own producers, animal exhibits may vary from temple to temple and from year to year. Circus producers and animal exhibitors at Shrine circuses have failed to meet minimum standards for the care of animals used in exhibition as established in the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The USDA has cited Shrine circus exhibitors for failing to provide adequate veterinary care, adequate shelter from the elements, nutritious food, and clean water. Exhibitors have also been cited for failing to handle animals in a manner that prevents trauma and harm to the animals and ensures public safety. Animals used by Shrine circuses have killed and injured humans. Some elephants used for Shrine circuses have tested positive for tuberculosis or been exposed to other elephants with the disease.

Some well-intentioned people may think that attending a Shrine circus benefits children, but the truth is that ticket sales aren't charitable donations. In a 2003 interview with the *Edmonton Sun*, a local Shriner admitted that statements made

by club members may have misled the public into believing that circus profits would help sick kids and fund hospital operations when, in fact, the funds were used to cover administrative costs. A 2007 *New York Times* examination of Shrine records found that more than 57% of the \$32 million raised in 2005 through circuses and other fundraising events went to Shriner activities and temple expenses, including parties, liquor, and travel. Only 2% of the Shrine hospitals' operating income came from money raised by Shrine temples.

Contact PETA for documentation.

April 7, 2023: Several ponies escaped from the Yelduz Shrine Circus, produced by Cindy Migley Productions, at the Aberdeen Civic Center in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Local police were dispatched to help recapture the ponies.

November 26, 2021: A 2-year-old child was bitten by a pony after riding the animal at the Hadi Shrine Circus in Evansville, Indiana. The handler gave the child permission to pet the pony, and the animal bit the child in the face and knocked him over. The child sustained a facial wound.

November 25, 2021: Adam Burck illegally exhibited tigers at the Hadi Shrine Circus in Evansville, Indiana, after the USDA canceled his exhibitor's license. Burck's tiger act was removed from subsequent performances.

May 15, 2019: The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife fined Carson & Barnes Circus \$500 for failing to comply with the state's permit conditions. The approved permit was for elephants Bunny and Libby, but Carson & Barnes actually brought elephants Becky, Lisa, and Traci into the state for performances with the Kora Shrine Circus.

September 16, 2018: Six children and one adult were injured after a camel provided by Circus Pages was startled and began bucking during rides at the Syria Shrine Circus in Pittsburgh. One child fractured an arm, and the other five sustained minor injuries.

April 27, 2017: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation for repeat, critical noncompliance for failing to provide a tiger named Munia with timely veterinary care. Munia died while on the road on April 25. A trainer notified the attending veterinarian of the death, and the veterinarian indicated the need for a necropsy to determine the cause, but the owner refused. Hawthorn had supplied tigers for the Aleppo Shrine Circus in Wilmington, Massachusetts, which ran until April 23, 2017.

April 25, 2017: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation for direct noncompliance for failing to provide a tiger named King with adequate veterinary care. At the time of the inspection, King exhibited an emaciated body condition, with his vertebrae and rib cage visible. His hips protruded, with a sunken appearance on both sides of the abdomen, and he walked with a hunched posture. He attempted to lift his tail to urinate but was unable to do so. He had been on the road but was brought home the week prior because he wasn't eating. He hadn't been evaluated by a veterinarian.

Hawthorn Corporation was also cited for critical noncompliance for failing to provide a tiger named Prince with timely veterinary care. While on the road, Prince was presented to a veterinarian in a "moribund, hypothermic condition." He was in lateral recumbency and dehydrated, and his breathing was labored. He had to be euthanized.

April 12, 2017: A Hawthorn Corporation truck transporting tigers from the Hejaz Shrine Circus in South Carolina to Illinois

got a flat tire, and the driver left it in a strip-mall parking lot before reportedly checking into a motel. The tigers were left unattended inside the truck for hours and ran out of water. Authorities from the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources cited the driver for not having the proper permit to transport the tigers through the state. The Kentucky State Police also issued a vehicle-related citation.

April 4, 2017: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, performing with the Hejaz Shrine Circus in Spartanburg, South Carolina, for failing to have enclosures that properly contained tigers at all times and failing to provide 12 tigers with enclosures that allowed for "full postural and social adjustments." The animals were kept in pairs inside enclosures that measured 4 feet high. They also weren't allowed into the exercise area on a daily basis.

February 24, 2017: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, performing with the Jamil Shrine Circus in Columbia, South Carolina, for failing to store food properly. Much of the rendered red meat, which was stored in a freezer room of the transport trailer, had been opened or had spilled, and some of it contained frost.

November 30, 2016: Royal Hanneford Circus was assessed a civil penalty of \$7,000 and ordered to cease and desist from violating the AWA after three elephants escaped from the Moolah Shrine Circus in St. Charles, Missouri, which Royal Hanneford produced. (See the March 22, 2014, entry.)

May 25, 2016: Carson & Barnes was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$16,000 for mishandling elephants on two occasions in 2014 while performing at Shrine circuses. (See the April 14, 2014, and March 22, 2014, entries.)

April 22, 2016: The USDA cited Jennifer Caudill while traveling with the Aleppo

Shrine Circus in Wilmington, Massachusetts, for failing to submit a travel itinerary for two camels and a zebra. The USDA requires these itineraries to ensure that exhibitors traveling with animals are in compliance with welfare regulations.

April 22, 2016: The USDA cited Rosaire's Bears while traveling with the Aleppo Shrine Circus in Wilmington, Massachusetts, for failing to provide two bears with a wholesome, nutritive diet. The main food source that had been supplied was bread, supplemented with carrots and lettuce.

April 21, 2016: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) suspended Tarzan Zerbini Circus' permits to export two elephants to Canada for the 2016 Royal Canadian Circus season. The move followed PETA's lawsuit against the FWS challenging its unlawful "pay-to-play" scheme, which allows exhibitors such as Tarzan Zerbini, which produces Shrine circuses in Canada, to pledge money to conservation groups in exchange for an endangered species permit. While PETA's lawsuit was pending, the agency noticed that Tarzan Zerbini had failed to make good on its financial pledge and suspended the permits.

April 13, 2016: Michael Hackenberger, owner of the now-defunct Bowmanville Zoo in Ontario, Canada—who had in previous years supplied big cats and elephants to Canadian Shrine circuses—was charged with five counts of cruelty to animals after PETA eyewitness footage showed him whipping a tiger during a circus-style training session.

April 27, 2015: The USDA filed an administrative lawsuit under the AWA against Carson & Barnes Circus and Royal Hanneford Circus for mishandling elephants during performances with Shrine circuses, resulting in injuries to the elephants. While Royal Hanneford was performing with the Moolah Shrine Circus in St. Charles, Missouri, in March 2014, three elephants—

Kelly, Viola, and Isa—were being escorted to an enclosure when the handlers lost control of Kelly. Employees of Royal Hanneford had encouraged audience members to make loud noises, causing Kelly to become stressed and escape from the handlers, resulting in abrasions and lacerations to her right side. Viola also sustained lacerations to her left and right sides. (See the March 22, 2014, entry.) In addition, while performing with Zembo Shrine Circus in Altoona, Pennsylvania, in April 2014, Carson & Barnes was cited for mishandling the same three elephants. The circus didn't have a barrier behind them as they were led toward the housing area. A small boy and a man were able to approach the animals and take photos. (See the April 14, 2014, entry.)

April 10, 2015: The USDA cited big-cat exhibitor Mitchel Kalmanson, performing with the Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Circus in Springfield, Missouri, for failing to have sufficient barriers between tigers and the public, leaving the area holding the tigers unattended, failing to provide the tigers with adequate space and exercise, failing to store meat for the tigers properly, and transporting animals in a vehicle with exposed insulation material, a "foul odor," numerous flies and maggots, and a buildup of debris that appeared to be hair, food waste, and excreta.

April 14, 2014: The USDA cited Carson & Barnes Circus, performing as the Zembo Shrine Circus in Altoona, Pennsylvania, for failing to have a handler or an attendant present behind three elephants—Kelly, Viola, and Isa—as they were led toward the housing area. A small boy and a man were able to approach them and take photos.

March 22, 2014: While the Moolah Shrine Circus was performing at The Family Arena in St. Charles, Missouri, three elephants—Kelly, Viola, and Isa—escaped from their handlers. They were loose for about 45 minutes and damaged multiple cars before

the handlers were able to regain control of them.

February 23, 2014: According to multiple eyewitnesses, dogs exhibited by Star Plunkett of the James Cristy Cole Circus were punched and kicked in the face during the Arab Shrine Circus, which was produced by Hamid Circus, at the Kansas Expocentre in Topeka. Horrified circusgoers shared what they had seen on Hamid Circus' Facebook page.

December 28, 2013: According to the *Black Hills Pioneer*, the Northern Hills Shrine Circus in Deadwood, South Dakota, wasn't going to have its annual parade that preceded the performances. Circus officials told the Shrine circus committee that its animal handler insurance wouldn't cover the liability of having elephants possibly become startled while walking down the street.

April 20, 2013: Leah, a tiger exhibited by Doug Terranova with the Isis Shrine Circus at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kansas, escaped after a performance. A woman came face to face with the animal when she entered the women's bathroom and found the tiger there. She was able to back out of the room, and Leah was recaptured. In 2016, the USDA fined Terranova \$21,550 for multiple violations of the AWA related to this incident, including failing to have sufficiently knowledgeable and experienced staff and failing to have sufficient barriers to protect the public. His license was suspended.

April 19, 2013: An elephant Hamid Circus was planning to use at the Kora Shrine Circus in Maine was denied entry into the state. Hamid Circus didn't have the proper documentation to prove that Nosey, an African elephant owned by Hugo Liebel, didn't have tuberculosis, which can be spread to humans.

October 2012: PETA documented that Lancelot Kollman (aka "Lance Ramos") exhibited tigers owned by Hawthorn Corporation at a Shrine circus in Fort Worth, Texas, from October 12 to 20, even though the USDA had permanently revoked his license in 2009.

March 16, 2011: The USDA cited exhibitor George Carden Circus, performing with the Abou Ben Adhem Shrine Circus in Springfield, Missouri, for failing to have direct control and supervision of elephants during rides. Two elephants were being used for rides while the handlers were distracted and didn't have direct control. During an intermission, the handlers left one of the elephants unattended. The elephants present were Betty, Cindy, Vicky, and Jenny.

February 12, 2011: The USDA cited exhibitor Hanneford Family Circus, performing with the Shrine circus at the Tingley Coliseum in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for failing to establish and maintain an adequate program of veterinary care. Liz, a 36-year-old Asian elephant, appeared to be thin and underweight. She also had an angular limb deformity of the front left leg and a congenital deformity of her right hind leg. Both conditions affected her gait, which needed more frequent veterinary evaluations as she was aging. Hanneford was also cited for failing to provide an adequate barrier between the public and an elephant giving rides—children were able to get inside the rope barrier—and not properly maintaining the trailer used to transport three elephants named Carol, Liz, and Patty. The metal lining of numerous areas had sharp, jagged edges, which could injure an elephant.

April 9, 2010: An animal handler with Hamid Circus died after being kicked and thrown approximately 20 feet by an African elephant named Dumbo after the electrical fencing of the enclosure fell on the animal's

back, shocking and injuring her. The incident occurred between performances at the Irem Shrine Circus in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Dumbo had been leased from Joe Frisco's Wonderful World of Animals. Frisco was later issued a \$1,600 penalty by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for not furnishing the employee with a safe workplace. He was also issued an official warning from the USDA for violating the AWA by failing to provide the elephant with a suitable temporary enclosure and failing to provide the USDA with an itinerary. During the investigation into the employee's death, the agency discovered that Frisco hadn't notified the regional director of animal care about the planned exhibit at this event.

June 7, 2009: The USDA cited exhibitor Will Davenport, doing business as Maximus Tons of Fun and performing at the Shrine circus in Loves Park, Illinois, for repeat direct noncompliance for failing to provide elephants with adequate veterinary care. An elephant named Jewel appeared grossly underweight. In less than a year, she had lost 740 pounds, and another elephant, named Tina, had lost 640 pounds. On August 15, 2009, Jewel was in such poor physical condition and was suffering to such an extent that the USDA confiscated her the following day. Davenport voluntarily relinquished Tina that same day to settle a pending FWS proceeding against him.

April 4, 2009: The USDA cited exhibitor Will Davenport, doing business as Maximus Tons of Fun and performing at the Hejaz Shrine Circus in Greenville, South Carolina, for direct noncompliance for failing to provide adequate veterinary care when all three elephants—Tina, Jewel, and Boo—were found to be in poor physical condition. They had lost more than 500 pounds each since the last time they were weighed, and Jewel was so thin that her vertebrae were prominent and her face was sunken.

April 4, 2009: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, performing at the Shrine circus in Greenville, South Carolina, for thawing meat for tigers in direct sunlight for several hours, exposing it to flies. This method can contaminate the food and render it unsuitable for consumption.

March 7, 2009: At least 15 children and one adult were injured when an elephant who was being used to give rides at the Murat Shrine Circus in Indianapolis became startled, stumbling and knocking over the scaffolding stairway leading to the elephant ride. People standing on, under, and around the scaffolding were injured and treated at the scene.

November 8, 2008: The USDA confiscated a severely emaciated elephant named Ned from trainer Lancelot Kollman (aka "Lance Ramos") and transferred him to The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee. Ned was nearly 2,000 pounds underweight and suffered from a general loss of muscle mass throughout his body, with a sunken head, protruding hip bones, visible ribs, and loose skin. Leading up to the confiscation, the USDA had repeatedly cited Kollman for failing to provide Ned with adequate veterinary care or treatment for his chronic weight loss. Kollman was also cited for failing to provide the elephant with an adequate diet to meet his nutritional needs. Kollman had exhibited Ned at Shrine circus shows during this time, including the Anah Shrine Circus in Bangor, Maine.

May 16, 2008: The USDA cited animal exhibitor Brett Carden, performing at the Al Kaly Shrine Circus in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for failing to maintain an elephant transport enclosure properly. It had a bent metal panel with sharp edges that protruded into the area containing the elephant. Carden was also cited for failing to provide sufficient employee supervision during periods of public contact with llamas, goats, and sheep.

May 6, 2008: The USDA cited Ari and Lana Steeples, doing business as Steeple's Bears and performing at the Kosair Shrine Circus in Barbourville, Kentucky, for three instances of noncompliance pertaining to their failure to provide adequate barriers between two adult male black bears and the public.

March 28, 2008: The USDA cited Rosaire's Bears, performing at the Zembo Shrine Circus in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for failing to have a handler in control of two bears during a performance and failing to have barriers protecting the public from direct contact with the bears.

November 24, 2006: Animal trainer Wade Burck was clawed by a tiger during a performance by the Hadi Shrine Circus in Evansville, Indiana. He received hospital treatment, including stitches, for wounds to his left forearm and leg.

October 19, 2006: The USDA cited animal exhibitor Brett Carden, performing at the Al Menah Shrine Circus in Nashville, Tennessee, for failing to keep two elephants under the direct control and supervision of a handler. They were being used to give rides to members of the public. The inspector wrote, "The handler walked away from the elephants and turned away from the elephants to assist in another matter unrelated to the elephants." The elephants used for this circus were Dutchess, Janice, and Tory. The USDA also cited Carden for failing to store food supplies in a manner adequate to protect them from deterioration, mold, or contamination.

April 29, 2006: The USDA cited George Carden Circus, performing at the El Jebel Shrine Circus in Denver, for failing to have dangerous animals under the direct control and supervision of a knowledgeable and experienced animal handler. The inspector wrote, "Only one animal handler was available to manage two elephants providing rides to the public. There were

times when both elephants were loaded with [members of the] public and the handler was not in the ring with the animals and could not have been in control of either elephant. No other knowledgeable and experienced elephant handler was available to assist this handler during public exhibition." Elephants used for this circus were named Vicky, Jenny, and Bimbo.

March 16, 2006: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, performing at a Shrine circus in Springfield, Missouri, for failing to provide a male lion who had three lesions—including a 3-inch scrape on his right hip and scabbed-over lesions at the base of his tail and on his left hip—with veterinary care.

March 16, 2006: The USDA cited George Carden Circus, producing a Shrine circus in Springfield, Missouri, for failing to provide an elephant named Judy, who had three open wounds on her forehead and one on her left front leg, with veterinary care.

February 24, 2006: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, an exhibitor producing the Arab Shrine Circus in Topeka, Kansas, for failing to provide three tigers—Massey, Obi, and Rook—with adequate veterinary care. They had sores and spots of missing hair on top of their heads and near their eyes. Hawthorn was also cited for failing to have "any weapons that could immobilize, tranquilize, or [euthanize] any of the [eight] tigers if escape occurred."

February 24, 2006: The USDA cited Jorge Barreda, an exhibitor performing for the Arab Shrine Circus in Topeka, Kansas, for failing to maintain the sanitation of a trailer used to transport elephants Makia, Lou, Dolly, and Lovie, in which the inspector found "dried & caked elephant waste on the walls."

January 31, 2005: An elephant handler with Tarzan Zerbini Circus was trampled to death by one of the elephants as they were

being loaded onto a trailer following performances at the Mizpah Shrine Circus in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

November 26, 2004: An ambulance was called to the Hadi Shrine Circus at Roberts Municipal Stadium in Evansville, Indiana, after a circusgoer was bitten on the cheek by a chimpanzee exhibited by Rosaire-Zoppe Chimpanzees while posing for pictures. The patron was treated at the hospital for a puncture wound.

August 29, 2004: An elephant with the George Carden Circus attacked a worker at the Don Haskins Center in El Paso, Texas following a performance by the El Maida Shrine Circus. The elephant knocked the man down, threw him into a wall, and pinned him against a fence. The worker sustained a dislocated shoulder, a torn rotator cuff, and a nerve injury, which required surgery for repair and reconstruction and resulted in more than \$15,000 in medical bills.

November 2003: The USDA seized an elephant named Delhi from Hawthorn Corporation and transferred her to The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee after determining that her health and well-being were at serious risk from lack of veterinary treatment and care. Her feet had chemical burns and severe infections. Hawthorn later settled with the USDA in 2004 by agreeing to transfer the entire herd of 16 elephants to facilities approved by the agency.

April 9, 2003: The USDA filed an administrative lawsuit under the AWA against Hawthorn Corporation. The complaint alleged 47 violations of the minimum standards of care established in the AWA. Alleged violations included using physical abuse to train, handle, and work an elephant; failing to handle elephants in a manner that didn't cause unnecessary discomfort or physical harm; failing to have an attendant present during public contact; and failing to provide the following animals

with adequate veterinary care: an elephant who was excessively thin with a protruding spine and hip bones, an elephant suffering from severe chemical burns and a bacterial infection, and four elephants with overgrown toenails and footpads.

March 24, 2003: The Associated Press reported that a Shetland pony at a Shrine circus held at the Pershing Center in Lincoln, Nebraska, had been chased by police officers and had stopped traffic in the downtown area after bolting through a back door during a performance.

March 2, 2003: A 9,000-pound African elephant performing with Jordan World Circus at a Shrine circus in Muskegon, Michigan, escaped from a tent shortly before a performance and was recaptured 15 minutes later in a busy downtown area.

February 28, 2003: Sheba, a 9,000-pound African elephant performing with Jordan World Circus at a Shrine circus in Muskegon, Michigan, escaped from a tent shortly before a performance and was recaptured 15 minutes later in a busy downtown area.

August 2, 2002: According to *The Halifax Herald Limited*, three elephants traveling with Tarzan Zerbini Circus—touring with Shrine circuses in Canada—and giving rides to children were quarantined in Ontario and removed from Canada on July 13 after Canadian authorities were alerted by the USDA that the elephants had been in prolonged contact with a tuberculosis-positive elephant.

June 17, 2002: Two elephants, named Tory and Mary, performing with Mehara Shrine Circus in Menomonie, Wisconsin, left a circus tent during a show, scattering crowds. Mary walked 2 miles through town before being recaptured at the University of Wisconsin–Stout campus. One child was injured, and the elephants damaged a door at the park and caused \$600 in damage to a

city truck. The Shriners had contracted with George Carden Circus for the event.

April 26, 2002: Kay Rosaire-Mowrey, exhibiting with the Shrine circus in Marietta, Georgia, was cited by the USDA for improper storage of vitamins for tigers.

April 13, 2001: A letter to the editor published in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, written by a local woman from Irving Park, stated, “I escorted a group of schoolchildren, including my 8-year-old daughter, to this year’s Medinah Shrine circus. ... When the elephants were brought behind the curtain, the trainer began verbally abusing and hitting the elephant. We watched in horror as he swung a stick with all his force and struck the elephant in the back of the leg. This must have hurt because the elephant let out a scream that could be heard throughout the UIC Pavilion. The kids were frightened and asked me why the man was hurting the elephant.”

April 4, 2001: The USDA cited George Carden Circus International, performing for a Shrine circus in Jamestown, North Dakota, for failing to store food properly, failing to have an exercise plan for dogs, failing to have records of dogs on hand, and failing to provide a llama with adequate space. The animal wasn’t able to stand with his head in an upright position.

April 2001: Animal handler Brian Franzen required stitches after he was clawed by a tiger during a performance at the Tangier Shrine Circus in Omaha, Nebraska.

March 29, 2001: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, exhibiting at the Shrine circus in Hamburg, New York, for failing to provide an elephant named Delhi, who had an open and bleeding wound on her left front foot, with adequate veterinary care.

February 23, 2001: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, exhibiting at the Tripoli Shrine Circus in Milwaukee,

Wisconsin, for failing to correct a previously identified noncompliance for not repairing damage to a trailer used to transport tigers.

May 4, 1999: The USDA cited Tarzan Zerbini Circus, exhibiting at the Shrine circus in Marietta, Georgia, for failing to provide an elephant named Roxy, who had a swollen left front foot, with veterinary care. The circus was also cited for failing to provide the elephants—Roxy, Jan, and Bunny—with shade. Tarzan Zerbini was also cited for the second time for an improperly maintained transport trailer that could injure the elephants’ feet and for failing to store food properly.

April 29, 1999: In Duluth, Minnesota, at a performance of the Aad Shrine Circus, a circus worker was hospitalized in serious condition after sustaining injuries from an elephant to his leg, pelvis, and face. The elephant was owned by Tarzan Zerbini Circus.

November 13, 1998: Jupiter, the same tiger used in Shrine circuses who had killed a trainer on October 8, 1998, attacked and killed his owner in Newberry, Florida. The tiger was shot dead.

October 8, 1998: A tiger named Jupiter attacked and killed a trainer in Newberry, Florida. The animal, who had been featured in numerous Shrine circuses, grabbed the trainer by the throat.

April 22, 1998: The USDA cited George Carden Circus International, exhibiting at the Shrine circus in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for failing to have a plan of veterinary care, records of the animals, and records of acquisition, disposition, and transport available for review.

April 13, 1997: Jan, an elephant with Tarzan Zerbini Circus performing at the Al Azhar Shrine Circus in Calgary, Canada, bit a circus groom on the head and back, causing injuries serious enough to require hospitalization.

March 18, 1997: A bear with a Shrine circus in Grand Rapids, Michigan, bit off the tip of a 2-year-old child's finger during a school field trip. According to witnesses, no safety barriers had been placed around the bear cages and other children had been petting the animal.

October 16, 1996: The USDA cited George Carden Circus International, exhibiting at the Shrine circus in San Antonio, Texas, for failing to provide animals with adequate veterinary care. No veterinary records were present that documented whether an elephant named Cindy, who had a history of weight loss, had received treatment, and a pygmy goat who had a large swelling on her lower neck and needed to be examined hadn't received veterinary care. The circus was also cited for failing to keep the tiger enclosures in good repair.

June 14, 1996: Sue, an elephant leased from Hawthorn Corporation, knocked down and repeatedly kicked her trainer during a Jordan World Circus performance sponsored by the Casper Shrine Club in Casper, Wyoming. At the time of the incident, Sue was giving rides to children. According to an eyewitness, one child fell off the elephant.

February 6, 1995: An elephant with the Tarzan Zerbini Circus stepped on a worker, leaving the man in critical condition with a crushed pelvis and chest and abdominal injuries. The incident occurred while workers were loading animals and equipment following a performance by the Mizpah Shrine Circus in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

August 20, 1994: An African elephant named Tyke from the Hawthorn Corporation killed a trainer while performing in Honolulu and injured a circus groom. A dozen spectators were injured as they fled. Tyke broke through the main exit and wandered for several blocks before she was shot repeatedly by authorities and killed.

May 9, 1994: The USDA cited Hawthorn Corporation, exhibiting at the Shrine circus in Wilmington, Massachusetts, for failing to maintain a veterinary-care program and medical records. Hawthorn was also cited for failing to maintain a transport trailer for the elephants and records of acquisition and disposition.

April 1994: Three children were injured when an elephant provided by Tarzan Zerbini Circus who was being used for rides at the Muskegon Shrine Circus in Muskegon, Michigan, fell into the passenger loading platform, spilling the riders and bending the platform.

April 21, 1993: An African elephant named Tyke, owned by the Hawthorn Corporation and performing at the Jaffa Mosque in Altoona, Pennsylvania, charged through an arena entryway during a Shrine circus performance, ripping away part of the wall and causing \$10,000 in damage. At least 3,000 children were in the audience.

April 17, 1993: During a Shrine circus performance in Little Rock, Arkansas, a tiger named Maia escaped, ran into the audience, and bit a 13-year-old girl. The tiger was owned and trained by John Jordan of Jordan World Circus. The USDA fined Jordan \$500.

October 14, 1992: An elephant named Bunny slipped in a puddle of urine and fell while giving rides to several children at the Zuhrah Shrine Circus in Bloomington, Minnesota. The elephant's handler was hospitalized for a leg injury after being hit by the elephant's tusk, and one child sustained a minor injury.

July 8, 1990: A 600-pound tiger ran loose at a Shrine circus after being startled by a group of elephants at the Square One Shopping Centre in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

February 17, 1990: According to *The Capital Times*, a woman alleged that her foot had been crushed by an elephant as she dismounted the animal she and her son had been riding at the Zor Shrine Circus at the Dane County Exposition Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

March 5, 1988: A Detroit elephant trainer was treated in the intensive care unit of a Montréal hospital after being stomped on by an elephant during a performance of a Shrine circus. The trainer required emergency surgery for multiple abdominal injuries, including three cracked ribs and a damaged liver.

April 25, 1980: Animal trainer Wade Burck was mauled by three tigers during a performance at the Aleppo Shrine Circus in Wilmington, Massachusetts. He required about 200 stitches to close slash wounds on his jaw, arm, and back.

March 11, 1978: A Hawthorn Corporation elephant performing at the Medinah Shrine Circus in Chicago picked up an employee named David Farr with her trunk and threw him into a pillar, killing him. Witnesses said that Farr had been toying with the elephant earlier, putting his hand in her mouth and pushing her face.