

June 17, 2024

Roxanne Mullaney, D.V.M. Deputy Administrator USDA/APHIS/Animal Care

Via e-mail: <u>ac.complaints@usda.gov</u>

Re: Request for Immediate Investigation of Apparent Animal Welfare Act Violations by Sally Powell, dba Honey Hill Farm (License No. 61-C-0170)

Dear Dr. Mullaney:

I am writing to follow-up on PETA's June 12, 2024 request for urgent investigation of Sally Powell, dba Honey Hill Farm (License No. 61-C-0170) for apparent Animal Welfare Act violations involving the escape of two camels on June 11. According to a local <u>news article</u>, multiple goats exhibited by Honey Hill Farm also escaped at Cedar Point Amusement Park on or about June 15. In a video posted to <u>Tiktok</u>, the goats are seen running through a crowd of people in the park. (*See* Video 1.) The goats appear nervous and afraid as people approach and touch them. There was no staff member present in order to protect the goats from harm.

As described in PETA's June 12 correspondence (enclosed) it appears that Powell is exhibiting these goats in a manner that violates 9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c)(1), which requires that "[d]uring public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public."

Powell appears to have further violated the AWA by failing to secure the goats in accordance with 9 C.F.R. § 3.125(a), putting them at risk of severe injury. Moreover, 9 C.F.R. § 2.131(b)(1) requires that "[h]andling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, ... behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort."

Please immediately ensure that these goats are thoroughly examined for injuries they may have sustained during their escape. Please also ensure that these goats and any other animals exhibited by Powell at Cedar Point Amusement Park are provided with adequate veterinary care, as well as sufficient food, water, shelter, and that they are otherwise handled in accordance with the AWA. Please hold the licensee fully accountable for any and all violations that you discover during your investigation.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please inform me of the complaint number that your agency assigns to this correspondence.

Very truly yours,

Meghantieran

Meghan Tiemann

Captive Wildlife Specialist, Captive Animal Law Enforcement

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PETA FOUNDATION IS AN OPERATING NAME OF THE FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT ANIMAL PROTECTION.

ENTITIES:

- PETA U.S.
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- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA SwitzerlandPETA Netherlands
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