

enbruck, Deborah
Friday, January 08, 2005 07:30 PM
Quart, Mike
mrfeld.doc
nts:mrfeld.doc

I had forgotten I had written this. I never sent this to Mr. Feld but I send it along for your information.

Mr. Feld
Feld Entertainment
8607 Westwood Center Drive
Vienna, Va 22182

Dear Mr. Feld,

Please first let me start by saying how much I enjoy working for you and Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey. The history, tradition, the dedication, and especially the people it is truly an adventure. I've been hearing here and there of all the changes taking place in the near future and look forward to seeing and being a part of it.

Unfortunately I have recently felt compelled to write to you. I pride myself on being able to solve situations on my own but I feel I have to this point only been putting band aids on one which has recently become worse. As we all anticipated the California run would be very trying for all of us but especially would be for Troy because of past experiences. Understanding this I looked upon it as a challenge and gave Troy and our entire animal department as much coverage, support and understanding as I could. I felt that if we could just stick it out and support each other we would all take a sigh of relief after we left the West Coast. I've witnessed some things done by Troy and his crew that were troubling but I cannot say were truly abusive. When I brought these issues to his attention strictly for his knowledge and for him to deal with as the barn head I was always met with resistance and always felt he considered me an outsider and threat. I will not go into them here but it made it very difficult at times to defend Troy not only in the media but to his crew, building employees, inspectors and others.

One example I will mention is that the activist's tape taken in Oakland could have been easily avoided. I surveyed the situation and saw it could become problematic and went to Troy to discuss it and fix the situation easily by putting up a tent wall. His reaction was that he was doing nothing wrong and they could take all the video they wanted. It ended with him swearing and gesturing towards the activist. The result of that was of course my defending us on the local news in San Jose after the activists held a press conference. I agree with Troy I didn't see any wanton abuse on the tape but we all understood how the activists would spin it and there really was no justification for what Brian did. I will add that after discussing the situation with Alex a short while later a tent wall went immediately up and further videoing ceased.

Things did settle down after leaving the coast but unfortunately have taken a turn again. I believe Alex's transfer triggered some of this but Troy is Troy and even when he is confronted with his attitude acknowledges it and even sometimes apologizes but also says he not only has no plans to change but vows to increase it.

I have some first hand knowledge on how he berates his crew and a lot of second hand. I think we will probably lose at least several good people and possibly one key one. I will tell you of my own recent incident. As everyone is aware Isham is practicing to take over ring one in manage. Last night in the show I observed him hook Lutzi under the trunk three times and behind the leg once in an attempt to line her up for the T-mount. After the act I stopped backstage and observed blood in small pools and dripped along the length of the rubber and all the way inside the barn. Troy was readying two elephants for Spec. Not knowing if he was aware I asked very quietly if he had seen the blood. Ignoring me

and thinking he didn't hear me I asked again. He was very abrupt in his acknowledgement. Understanding this I said nothing more and went up to the barn to check on the elephant. I asked Mike which elephant was bleeding and was told Lutzi. I told him I was not surprised as I had seen Isham hook her in the show fairly severely. Mike said he thought it might have been Suny during the act either way we had an elephant dripping blood all over the arena floor during the show from being hooked. I observed Suny cleaning Lutzi's trunk and decided to let the elephant department handle it. I had decided to wait twenty-four hours before talking to Troy as I have found in the past he tends to get very defensive and apologies later. Before leaving the show that night I stopped by the barn for something totally different and was told by Mike Troy wanted to talk to me and that I was "banned" from the barn unless he was there. I left telling Mike I didn't want to talk to Troy tonight and would deal with it tomorrow.

As of now I haven't talked to him and see no purpose in doing so. He has made it clear his feelings and I will stay out of the barn for now only. Troy is very unhappy here and has said so himself. His attitude and quality of work has slowly declined. We are all aware of his moods but things are not progressing. This is very hard for me as I never have questioned Troy's love of elephants but I'm beginning to question his judgment and wonder what is best not only for the elephants and people but the company.

I ended up talking to Mike Stuart and John Griggs about Troy. I found both of them to be very supportive. Mike said he would talk to him. That night I realized I needed to talk to Troy. I wasn't looking to Mike to fight my battles but be there if I needed him for back-up. This is how I've done it in the past and have found it to be the best method. The problem is again I feel we are only putting ban-aids on the situation.

I talked to Troy the next morning and he immediately apologized and stated his side of the story. His main point being big fish were being made out of little ones and what happens in the elephant barn stays in the barn. I wasn't trying to make something more of the situation then necessary but it warranted a follow up. The resistance I met from Troy made this a bigger fish.

Deborah Fahrenbruck
Animal Behaviorist
Feld Entertainment, Inc.

From: Lindsay, William
Sent: 7/25/2004 1:36:27 AM
To: Strauss, Julie;Gaipo, Mark;Andacht, Jim
Cc: Jacobson, Gary;
Subject: FW: a few updates

Heather is the new veterinary technician on the Red.

style='font-size: 12.0pt;font-family: "Monotype Corsiva";color: navy'>W. A. Lindsay, D.V.M.

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>Director of Veterinary Care, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>Diplomate, style='color:navy'>American style='color:navy'>Collegecolor=navy> of Veterinary Surgeons

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>Cellular: 608-239-9043

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>Facsimile: 801-640-1310

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>

-----Original Message-----

From: Riggs, Heather

Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2004
12:41 PM

To: Lindsay, William; Wiedner,
Ellen; Case, Allison

Subject: a few updates

Hello all. I have finally received my business cell phone (apparently it has been on Mark's desk for over a week...), number is 941.928.7640. I will still have my 801.787.6774 if you are unable to reach me on the other phone.

I spoke to Dr. Wiedner a few minutes ago, and she asked me to send this on. After this morning's baths, at least 4 of the elephants came in with multiple abrasions and lacerations from the hooks. Sacha and Jimmy were, I believe, the only handlers with them outside. The lacs were very visible, and I had questions at the open house from 2 members of the public about where they were from. Jimmy applied silvadene and wonder dust just before the show. I am making a list of what I find once the lights are back on, and it will follow shortly.

Updates on Dr. Case's visit and current tx to follow.

Heather

From: Lindsay, William
Sent: 7/25/2004 1:37:36 AM
To: Strauss, Julie;Gaipo, Mark;Andacht, Jim
Cc: Jacobson, Gary;
Subject: FW: elephants

*W. A.
Lindsay, D.V.M.*

Director of Veterinary Care, Ringling Bros.
and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Diplomate, American College
of Veterinary Surgeons

Cellular: 608-239-9043

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>Facsimile: 801-640-1310

style='font-size:12.0pt;color:navy'>

-----Original Message-----

From: Riggs, Heather

Sent: Saturday, July 24, 2004 2:09 PM

To: Lindsay, William; Wiedner, Ellen; Case, Allison

Subject: elephants

3/24/04color=black face=Arial> AM

list of injuries (that i was able to see
without approaching and without help of handler)

2 1-2cm laceration on front of trunk

Baby: 1 1cm laceration on front of trunk, 1 3-5cm laceration and 1 2-3cm laceration behind left ear, bleeding (enough to drip)

1 cm laceration on front of trunk

Assan: 6-8 cm laceration behind L ear, bleeding (this is the one pointed out by 2 members of the public); L tusk sulcus (term?), 2-3cm laceration

Banko: 1cm laceration of front of trunk

I will make note of this in my daily notes as well.
Please let me know if or what I should do. Thanks.

Heather

From: Fahrenbruck, Deborah
Sent: Saturday, January 08, 2005 07:32 PM
To: Stuart, Mike
Subject: Notes on Phoenix/California

These are the notes I jotted down at the time.

Walkin Phoenix

Troy was observed hitting Angelica 3 to five times in the stocks before unloading her and then using a hand electric prod within public view after unloading

California Tour

Troy carried an electric prod in his back pocket throughout most of the California tour during walk-ins. The use of an electric prod in California is strictly forbidden by state law. I didn't personally observe Troy using it in California. Dr. Lindsay also observed and commented about it in San Francisco.

From: Case, Allison
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2004 06:16 PM
To: Andacht, Jim; Gaipo, Mark
Cc: Lindsay, William;
Subject: watering and petting zoo

Greetings Jim and Mark,

I continue to have concerns about animal watering on the red unit. In my recent visit to Houston, I found all species water buckets to be in unacceptable condition – e.g. feces or food in water, water level too low, and/or poor quality water. The red unit uses a system of watering from a limited number of large drums instead of hoses with running water. One of several problems with the dispensing of all animal water from a few large drums is the quality or content of the “water” in the drums. I have witnessed both soapy water and, in Houston, bleach water being dispensed to the animals. In both cases the large dispensing drum was being “cleaned” or “soaked” but the grooms are not aware or are not able to recognize when this is taking place. Another major problem with this system is the overall incompleteness of cleaning water buckets and difficulty in watering fully.

I have voiced these concerns before and have recommended a solution: make working water hoses available to each animal department. This would not only make watering easier for the grooms (thus it might actually get done), but more importantly, it would provide an unlimited supply of fresh water for the animals and for their buckets to be properly cleaned. I am aware that in indoor compounds this is more difficult, but I have seen it work well even indoors.

It has also been brought to my attention by more than one person that the elephants are not receiving enough water “so as to minimize the amount they urinate”. I did notice very dry hard feces and in reflecting on my three days, did not happen to see any urination. I asked Sacha directly if his grooms were watering the elephants enough and I was told “yes, three times a day”. Perhaps this is worth investigating. It is certainly worth rectifying.

Finally, I know you have both been made aware that the unexpected petting zoo presents a significantly clear and present health risk to our animals and possibly even to the Ringling staff who make contact with these animals. I just want to introduce another problem with this situation: I was surprised to see the petting zoo staff wearing Ringling shirts. From my understanding, these people are not Ringling staff and their animal husbandry practices certainly do not reflect those of our veterinary care department. They interact very closely with the public during open house and by wearing Ringling shirts they misrepresent themselves as RBBB employees and also suggest the animals are RBBB animals. My concern is we have no idea what their message is in their interactions with the public. I would hope there would not be future joint exhibits, but if so, outside organizations should be in a separate location and clearly identified with their own brand.

Thank you both for your time and consideration,

Allison L. Case, DVM
Associate Veterinarian
Feld Entertainment, Inc.
352.454.7363 cell
240.359.5830 fax
acase@feldinc.com

REDACTED
Non-Responsive

-----Original Message-----

From: Wiedner, Ellen

Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2004 8:04 AM

To: Lindsay, William; Case, Allison; Isaza, Ramiro

Subject: Visit to red, Boston, #2

10/12-10/14/04

Dr. Ellen Wiedner

REDACTED
Non-Responsive

REDACTED
Non-Responsive

Elephants are being walked not even ten minutes a day -- on one day, the 'exercise' consisted of three circles around the wooden pallets. The unit continues to find reasons why the elephants cannot go outside. The local ACO called me to ask why the elephants are not getting exercised which means that someone in the arena called them about this. This is not surprising since the security guards are older, retired people who were very interested in the animals, and kept asking lots of questions. REDACTED

REDACTED

From: Wiedner, Ellen
Sent: Monday, August 30, 2004 06:15 AM
To: Lindsay, William;Case, Allison;Isaza, Ramiro
Subject: Visit to red in Jackson, MS

Visit to Red Unit
Jackson, MS
8/28-8/29/04
Dr. Ellen Wiedner

REDACTED
Non-Responsive

Non-medical items

REDACTED
Non-Responsive

Lewis Glover has been openly hostile to Heather Riggs in my presence. Heather reports problems also with Bill Bennucci

Heather and new teamster, Sandy, have witnessed Peshta hitting elephants on head with hook. Peshta substituting for Jimmy who is home having hand surgery and will not be back for several weeks.

From: Cathy Shilton
Sent: Sunday, February 04, 2001 01:25 AM
To: Gaipo, Mark
Cc: Froemming, Richard; Kendrick, Tracy; Isaza, Ramiro; Kirtland, John; Lindsay, William;
Subject: Re: Vet report for Red Unit

The main thing I wanted to accomplish was examining all the elephant's feet. There's a lot of severe, likely not completely treatable foot problems at Williston, that originated in the years that the elephants were on the road, so I'm trying to both study foot problems and also prevent them. I noticed some small lacerations behind the forelegs and ears in some elephants. I went specifically looking for these with just Pete present with Dutchess, Jenny and Judy, and found several bloody spots and one small abscess. I didn't have the opportunity to examine the Ringling elephants without a trainer being present. Not being familiar with all the politics etc. that is going on at the Red Unit, with respect to trainers etc., and being new myself, I was reluctant to be too aggressive about obviously searching for lacerations. Two of the Ringling elephants do however have superficial abscesses (brought to my attention by Sasha, and being treated by him), one on the top of the neck in one elephant and one behind the ear in the other.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Gaipo, Mark" <MGaipo@feldinc.com>
To: "Cathy Shilton" <eshilton@feldinc.com>; "Isaza, Ramiro" <RIsaza@feldinc.com>; "Lindsay, William" <WLindsay@feldinc.com>; "Kirtland, John" <JKirtland@feldinc.com>
Cc: "Froemming, Richard" <RFroemming@feldinc.com>; "Kendrick, Tracy" <TKendrick@feldinc.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 03, 2001 9:56 AM
Subject: RE: Vet report for Red Unit

> Did your visit center around foot care? Did you notice any lacerations
> or on or about the legs and ears. Call to discuss. Should be a
> conference call with Bill, John, Richard. Perhaps Tracy can set it up
> or we can get
> together in Greensboro. Mark

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cathy Shilton [<mailto:eshilton@feldinc.com>]
> Sent: Friday, February 02, 2001 19:51
> To: Isaza, Ramiro; Lindsay, William; Kirtland, John; Gaipo, Mark
> Subject: Vet report for Red Unit

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