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Statement of Gary Jacobson

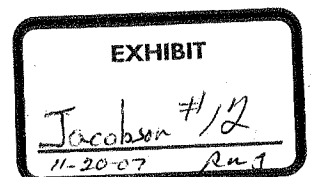
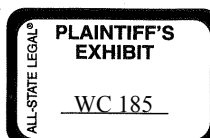
I am the General manager of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey ("Ringling Bros.") Center for Elephant Conservation ("CEC"). I am in charge of the overall care, management and husbandry of the elephants at the CEC. I work closely with the Ringling Bros. veterinary staff to provide care for the elephants. I have worked with elephants since 1972. I have been with Feld Entertainment for 10 years. I have helped rear all 16 of the elephants calves born to Feld Entertainment.

I was in charge of the daily care of Riccardo. He was born on December 5, 2003. Riccardo rejected his mother at birth and my wife and I hand-raised him. He was used to daily exercise and play. One of the enrichment and exercise toys with which Riccardo liked to play is a 19-inch high pedestal. All of the young elephants play on such pedestals and Riccardo had been playing with it for months.

At 8:30 or 9 am on August 4, 2004 my wife and I walked Riccardo to the young elephant paddock. He climbed on the pedestal right away. He put his front feet on the pedestal, but slipped and went down on his hind quarters. He fell toward the left and I heard him cry out. I could tell he was hurt. He got up and was favoring the left rear leg. My wife and I walked him carefully back to the barn so we could put a sling under him to keep the weight off his back legs. I called Dr. William Lindsay, Ringling's head staff veterinarian, and one or two other veterinarians who consult with Ringling. Three veterinarians, Dr. Ramiro Isaza, Dr. William Lindsay and Dr. Dennis Schmitt, arrived later that day and the veterinary team took over Riccardo's care.

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November 4, 2004



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