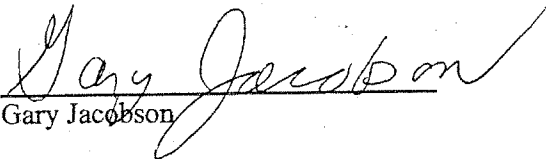


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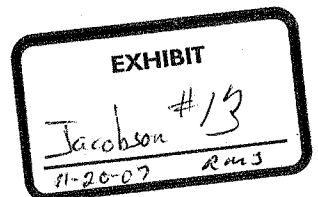
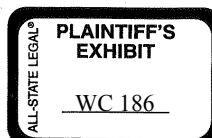
Statement of Gary Jacobson

I am General Manager of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Center for Elephant Conservation ("Ringling Bros. CEC") in Florida. This Statement supplements the Statement I provided to the United States Department of Agriculture on November 4, 2004 regarding the death of the elephant Riccardo.

At 8:30 or 9:00 am on August 4, 2004, my wife and I walked Riccardo to the young elephant paddock. It was not our practice to use "restraints" when walking Riccardo out to the exercise yard. Riccardo always walked alongside my wife wherever she led him, much as a young elephant does with its mother. His behavior on August 4 was no different than it usually was. That day, my wife held a soft rope in her hand and the other end of the rope was placed around Riccardo's trunk to guide him, as was her practice when walking with him. Riccardo stayed in the paddock area that day, as he always did. He climbed on the pedestal when he approached it, as he had done many times before. This time, he slipped off the pedestal and fell on his hind quarters.


Gary Jacobson

12/8/04
Date



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