# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, et al.,

.

Plaintiffs,

:

v. : Case No. 03-2006 (EGS/JMF)

.

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS, et al.,

:

Defendants.

relendants.

MOTION TO COMPEL DOCUMENTS SUBPOENAED FROM THE WILDLIFE ADVOCACY PROJECT AND MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT THEREOF

## **EXHIBIT 8**

Page 1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 1 FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2 3 AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE 4 PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO 5 ANIMALS, et al., Plaintiffs, 7 Case No. 03-2006 (EGS) ٧. 8 RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM &: 9 BAILEY CIRCUS, et al., 10 Defendants. 11 12 Washington, D.C. 13 Tuesday, July 19, 2005 14 Videotaped deposition of LISA WEISBERG, a 15 witness herein, called for examination by counsel for 16 Defendants in the above-entitled matter, pursuant to 17 notice, the witness being duly sworn by MARY GRACE 18 CASTLEBERRY, a Notary Public in and for the District 19 of Columbia, taken at the offices of Covington & 20 Burling, 1201 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, 21 D.C., at 9:40 a.m., Tuesday, July 19, 2005, and the 22 proceedings being taken down by Stenotype by MARY 23 GRACE CASTLEBERRY, RPR, and transcribed under her 24 direction. 25

July 19, 2005

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                                            Page 46
                                                            any additional funds for his participation in this
1
   Bros.
                                                            project from other plaintiffs?
                                                         2
       Q. What other activities were covered in the
2
                                                                A. I can't answer that.
                                                         3
    $6,000 grant?
3
                                                                Q. You don't know?
                                                         4
       A. They were to reimburse Tom Rider for his
4
                                                         5
                                                               A. I don't recall.
    general living expenses to travel the country and
5
                                                                   MS. DALTON: I would like to mark Exhibit
                                                         6
    meet with the media.
6
       Q. Did you have any direct -- did you provide
                                                         7
                                                            8.
                                                                       (ASPCA Exhibit No. 8 was
                                                         8
    Mr. Rider with any direct payments or were all of
8
                                                                       marked for identification.)
    your -- that's my question. Did you provide him with
                                                         9
                                                                   BY MS. DALTON:
                                                         10
    any direct payments?
10
                                                                O. And this is another check request
                                                         11
       A. Yes, in 2003, I believe.
11
                                                         12 requested by you for the check made payable to Meyer
       O. Did you provide that check request to us?
12
                                                         13 & Glitzenstein for, quote, "Tom Rider testimony at

 A. I believe I did.

13
                                                         14 Mass. legislative hearing on anticircus bill,"
           MS. DALTON: I don't recall that, so Kim,
14
    if we could perhaps discuss that. We didn't receive
                                                             correct?
                                                         15
                                                         16
                                                                A. Correct.
    any check request for Mr. Rider specifically.
16
                                                                Q. And this was dated May 23rd, 2003,
                                                         17
           THE WITNESS: Well, they weren't to
17
                                                         18 correct?
18 Mr. Rider, the check requests. We would either
                                                                A. Correct.
    advance money to him to purchase a Greyhound bus
                                                         19
19
                                                                Q. Why did the ASPCA reimburse Mr. Rider for
    ticket or to reimburse him for his daily living
                                                         20
                                                         21 this testimony?
    expenses or I would prepay his hotel rooms. So there
21
                                                                A. That covered his transportation and hotel
    was never any checks written to Mr. Rider.
                                                         22
22
                                                         23 costs to get to Massachusetts, to get to Boston to
           BY MS. DALTON:
23
        Q. So there aren't any documents that would
                                                             testify at the hearing.
                                                         24
24
                                                                Q. Why did the ASPCA not reimburse Mr. Rider
                                                         25
    reflect any of those purchases or any of those
25
                                                                                                      Page 49
                                             Page 47
                                                             directly for his work on this project?
    monetary advances?
                                                                 A. At the time, we had no way of getting the
        A. The hotel rooms were oftentimes put on my
 2
                                                              money to Mr. Rider because he was on the road and
     American Express corporate card, and then some of the
                                                          3
 3
                                                              Meyer & Glitzenstein was able to wire the money to
     other smaller items were reimbursed to him through
                                                          5
                                                              him.
     petty cash.
 5
                                                                 Q. Did you consult with Mr. Rider about the
                                                          6
        Q. And those were all in 2003?
  6
                                                              contents of his testimony?
                                                          7
        A. Correct.
 7
                                                                 A. Of the contents of his testimony?
                                                          8
            Can you think of any other direct payments
  8
                                                                 Q. Yes, referred to in this exhibit.
     or in-kind reimbursements to Mr. Rider for any of the
                                                           9
                                                                 A. No. Mr. Rider can speak firsthand about
                                                          10
     years besides 2003?
 10
                                                              his knowledge of what occurs at Ringling Bros.
                                                          11
        A. No.
 11
                                                                 Q. Did Mr. Rider know that the ASPCA was
        Q. Returning to Exhibit 7. So if you could
                                                          12
 12
                                                              providing this funding?
 13 tell me - if you could go into more detail as to
                                                          13
                                                                 A. I believe so.
     what the $6,000 grant was originally for.
                                                          14
 14
                                                                 Q. Have any other payments from the ASPCA to
                                                          15
        A. Again, it was to reimburse Mr. Rider for
15
                                                          16 Meyer & Glitzenstein included funds that were
 16 his Greyhound bus tickets, to travel the country,
                                                              intended to go to Mr. Rider?
                                                          17
     basic day-to-day living expenses, food, lodging.
 17
                                                          18
                                                                 A. No.
        Q. And this was all provided through the
 18
                                                                     MS. DALTON: I would like to mark Exhibit
                                                          19
     Wildlife Advocacy Project?
19
                                                          20 9.
      . A. Correct.
 20
                                                                         (ASPCA Exhibit No. 9 was
                                                          21
        Q. Did Mr. Rider know that the ASPCA was
 21
                                                                         marked for identification.)
                                                          22
     providing this funding through the Wildlife Advocacy
 22
                                                                     BY MS. DALTON:
                                                          23
 23
     Project?
                                                                  Q. And this is an e-mail to Dr. Hawk from you
                                                          24
        A. I believe so.
 24
                                                          25 dated May 7th, 2001, correct?
        Q. Did Mr. Rider, to your knowledge, receive
 25
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13 (Pages 46 to 49)

#### Page 50 Page 52 1 A. Yes. costs. 2 Q. And what is the subject of this e-mail? 2 Q. So you spoke with the two other A. It has to do with Tom Rider, who is the plaintiffs, the AWI and the Fund For Animals, 3 co-plaintiff on the suit, has just left the 4 4 regarding this? employment of PAWS and --5 5 A. Yes. Q. I was actually just asking you what the 6 6 Q. Did you decide to pay these expenses 7 subject was. 7 directly? 8 A. I'm sorry. Ringling Bros. lawsuit, Tom 8 A. Directly to Mr. Rider? 9 9 Rider. Q. Yes. And in the first sentence, you say that 10 10 Q. A. I believe at the time, because one of the "Tom Rider, who is a co-plaintiff in the suit and a difficulties was how to get the money to him because former Ringling elephant trainer, had just left the he was always on the road and didn't have a permanent 13 employ of Pat Derby's group," correct? 13 home. 14 A. Correct. 14 Q. Yes, you said that, because one of the What is your basis for knowing that 15 15 difficulties, so --16 Mr. Rider was an elephant trainer at Ringling Bros.? 16 A. So --A. He told me. 17 17 Q. So you were paying him directly because he Why would Tom Rider have left PAWS? 18 Q. 18 was out on the road? A. I can't answer that. 19 19 We were not paying him directly at the Might it be because PAWS dropped out of 20 Q. 20 time. 21 this lawsuit? 21 Q. Okay. So let's just clear -- because you 22 A. I don't recall if that's the only reason. answered yes. I think my question was a little 23 Q. What did you mean by stating that he, 23 convoluted. So did you pay him directly for these 24 quote, "wanted to ensure he would not be taken off 24 travel expenses? 25 25 the suit"? A. No, not at that time. Page 51 Page 53 1 A. I don't recall. 1 Q. How did you pay him? 2 Q. Did you speak with Mr. Rider about his A. The money was wired to wherever he was 3 decision to leave PAWS? through Western Union by Meyer & Glitzenstein and 4 A. No. then we would be invoiced for it. Q. Did you speak to Mr. Rider before sending 5 5 Q. Why did you not wire the money directly this e-mail to Dr. Hawk? 6 6 yourself? 7 7 A. I don't believe I spoke directly to him. A. I believe because Meyer & Glitzenstein 8 Q. Who do you think you learned this already had an account set up. 9 information from? 9 Q. Did you send any additional e-mails A. I believe I may have learned it from Nancy 10 10 requesting that this money be forwarded to Mr. Rider? 11 Blaney. 11 A. Any additional e-mails to Dr. Hawk? Q. Why could Rider not be employed if he is 12 12 Q. To anybody at the ASPCA regarding this 13 to follow the circus? 13 money. Because he's constantly on the road. 14 14 A. I may have had correspondence with Nancy Q. Did you ever consider hiring Mr. Rider at 15 15 Blaney at the time. the ASPCA? 16 16 Q. But all documents that you still have in 17 A. No. 17 your custody have been produced? 18 Did anybody ever suggest that you do so? 18 A. Correct. Q. 19 19 Why is there no check request or invoice 20 Q. Did you ever discuss this arrangement with 20 for this thousand dollar payment included in the 21 anybody from AWI? document production that was provided to the 22 A. The arrangement being to --22 defendants by the ASPCA? 23 23 Q. Pay his travel expenses. A. I believe it would have been part of a 24 A. Yes. We discussed how we could fund the 24 payment made to Meyer & Glitzenstein.

25

25 costs for his travels and how we would divide the

Q. If we could turn back to Exhibit 3, which

5

9

12

14

Page 54 1 is the larger exhibit. It's the interrogatory responses from your organization. If you could turn to page 33 of that for me, which is interrogatory 3 number 22. 4 This interrogatory asks for each 5 expenditure from 1997 to the present of, quote, 6 "financial and other resources made while pursuing alternate sources of information about defendants' actions and treatment as alleged in the complaint,"

A. Correct. 11

correct?

10

22

O. And the response to this request details a 12 13 number of different expenditures, correct?

14 A. Correct.

First, in 2000, it talks about the ASPCA 15 Q. 16 spending about 5 percent of its time and benefits of

the head of its D.C. office as well as 5 percent of

18 the overhead of that office gathering information 19 from other organizations about Ringling Bros.'

treatment of Asian elephants, correct?

21

A. Correct.

Do you know what information was gathered? Q.

A. Not specifically. 23

Generally? 24 Q.

Generally, information that other groups 25

Page 56

O. Next, in 2001, we see an expenditure to 1 the Wildlife Advocacy Project for a grant of \$7,400 2

for public education about Ringling Bros.'

mistreatment of Asian elephants, correct?

A. Correct.

And the Wildlife Advocacy Project is the 6 Q. group that we discussed that is associated with the 7 law firm of Meyer & Glitzenstein, correct?

A. Correct.

Q. What did this, quote, public education, 10 11

end quote, project entail?

A. That was funding Tom Rider to travel around the country and meet with the various media 13 outlets, as well as testifying at public hearings in support of legislation to ban wild and exotic 15 animals.

16 Why did the ASPCA not include as part of 17 O. its responses to defendants' document requests, any 18 check requests or any documents relating to this 19 20 payment?

A. We did. 21

Q. And can you refer me to that document? 22

According to my review of those documents, the only 23 check requests we received were from 2002 and 2003. 24

A. One was the \$6,000 check request, which

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had about Ringling Bros.' treatment and use of the bullhook and the chaining and the forcible removal of

the babies. 3

Q. And from what groups was this information 4 gathered? 5

A. I believe it included PAWS, Performing 6 Animal Welfare Society. I'm trying to remember the name. There was an elephant -- I don't recall the

exact name, Elephant Alliance. It was a group

located in California. I was not in charge of 10

gathering that information, so I can't be more 11 specific than that. 12

Q. Who was in charge of gathering this 13 14 information?

A. Nancy Blaney. 15

O. And it says that gathering this 16

information culminated in the ASPCA's decision to 17

become co-plaintiffs' in this action? 18

A. Correct.

19 O. And that refers to the decision-making 20

21 process that we discussed earlier?

A. Correct. 22

Q. Do you know who was responsible for 23

issuing invitations to be plaintiffs in this case? 24 A. I believe it was PAWS. 25

Page 55

25

11

15

I'm not finding --Q. We actually did not receive the \$6,000 2 check request. We received the check request for a 3 supplement to the \$6,000 check request. 4

A. Okay. It may have been -- I believe it 5 was billed from Meyer & Glitzenstein as part of their general invoice. I don't recall. 7

Q. Who decided to spend the \$7,400 for public 8 education through the Wildlife Advocacy Project at 9 10 the ASPCA?

A. I was involved in that decision. I believe Nancy Blaney was involved in that decision 12 and I believe Dr. Hawk needed to sign off on that 13

check request. 14

Q. Next, from 2002 to 2004, you list 16 expenditures that relate to a percentage of your salary and benefits plus an expenditure for a lawsuit 17 filed under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain 18

documents related to Ringling Bros., correct? 19

A. Correct. 20

Q. How did you determine what portion of your 21

salary to allocate to this response? 22

A. It was an approximation. 23

Q. What part of your job entailed, quote,

24 25 pursuing alternative sources of information about

#### Page 74 Page 76 They would send out press releases were going to the Wildlife Advocacy Project? regarding the lawsuit and speak to various reporters 2 A. It may have. who inquired about it. 3 Q. And would it have included the payment of 3 O. Did any of those funds go to support \$5,180 listed in Exhibit 4 and the payment of \$526 Mr. Rider's media efforts? 5 included in Exhibit 7? A. I don't believe so. 6 6 A. I believe so. O. And again, you list the Animal Watch 7 Q. Next you listed a humane law enforcement articles and I'm assuming that that calculation is investigation for \$250. the same for prior years and it represents a page and 9 A. Correct. a half approximately? 10 10 And what in particular does that refer to? 11 A. Correct. 11 A. I believe that was another inspection that Q. In 2002, you again have the 10 percent of 12 12 our humane law enforcement agents made of Ringling salary and benefits for government affairs in New 13 Bros. elephants when they were at Madison Square York. You do not have D.C. listed. Why is that? 14 14 Garden. We closed our D.C. office right after 15 A. 15 Q. And your media relations expenses are 16 9/11. 16 broken down a little bit further. And you say Midwest and California Midwest 17 17 A. Correct. Q. O. So what in particular is the video news 18 staff. 18 19 Correct. 19 release that you refer to? Α. Is the Midwest office the same office as 20 20 A. That was a production of Tom Rider 21 in Illinois? 21 speaking about his experience working for Ringling Correct. 22 22 A. Bros. and what he eyewitnessed as well as the O. And what is your California Midwest staff? 23 23 A. Oh, I'm sorry. That was a typo. 24 24 Q. And again, you have the Animal Watch 25 25 California staff is one person in the San Luis Obispo articles which again I'm going to assume, unless you Page 75 say differently, is the approximately one and a half 1 агеа. 2 And who is that person? 2 Q. pages. Jill Buckley. 3 3 A. Correct. And what are Ms. Buckley's Moving on to 2003, you have the same 4 Q. responsibilities? 5 5 benefits for New York, the Midwest and the California A. She is responsible for lobbying on animal 6 6 staff. protection legislation on the West Coast. 7 7 A. Correct. Q. In the state of California? 8 And 10 percent of supporting expenses is 8 9 A. California is included. 9 the legislative alerts? Q. And what other states? 10 10 A. Correct. 11 A. Arizona, Washington, Oregon. I'm trying 11 Q. And Meyer & Glitzenstein again for the 12 to think what other states she has. I think she has 12 Ringling lawsuit? the Dakotas and Idaho, to the best of my knowledge. 13 A. Correct. 13 O. And what in particular did she work on 14 14 Q. In addition to the invoices you provided that made you include her salary and benefits in this 15 to us that I've marked as Exhibit 5, Exhibit 6 and Exhibit 8, can you think of any other expenses 16 17 A. There were various bills pending in her 17 included in that \$16,000 that may have gone to Tom states having to do with prohibiting wild and exotic 18 18 Rider? animals being used for entertainment. 19 19 A. No. Q. And the next entry I want to talk to you 20 20 Q. Or other expenses that may have gone to 21 about is the next Meyer & Glitzenstein payment of 21 the Wildlife Advocacy Project? 22 \$10,151. And does that include any payment that you 22 A. No. 23 knew was going to Mr. Rider? 23 Q. And again, you've listed a humane law 24 A. It may have. 24 enforcement inspection from 7/17. Is that another And might it have included payments that 25 inspection of Ringling Bros. Circus?

5

1

5

6

11

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### Page 78

- A. I don't believe it was the Ringling Bros.
- Circus. It could have been the Clyde Beatty circus.
- Media relations you've listed at 5 percent 3 of staff time. 4
  - A. Correct.
- And what types of activities would that 6 Q. have entailed? 7
- A. I believe that was their work on 8 publicizing the enforcement report and any 9
- developments related to the lawsuit. 10
- O. When you say enforcement report, that's 11 the report we discussed earlier, correct? 12
- A. Correct. 13
- Q. And Animal Watch articles, again, I'm 14 going to assume are those --15
- A. Correct. 16
- -- approximately one and a half pages. In 17
- 2004, you have the same salary and benefits which I'm 18
- assuming is the same calculation method. 19
- A. Correct. 20
- Q. Along with your 10 percent of legislative 21
- alerts that are listed as supporting expenses. 22
- A. Correct. 23
- Q. And next you have \$5,000 to Meyer & 24
- 25 Glitzenstein?

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- A. They may have.
- O. Did you have any discussions with any of 2
- the other plaintiffs regarding continuing funding
- 4 past 2003?
  - A. Yes.
  - O. And what were those discussions?
- MS. OCKENE: I'm going to object just to 7
- the extent that it calls for attorney-client
- communications and instruct you not to answer, just 9
- to the extent it would include such conversations. 10

### BY MS. DALTON:

- You can continue, with that instruction. 12
- So if there were any conversations that you had that 13
- did not involve anybody from Meyer & Glitzenstein, 14 please let me know what those are.
- A. I'm sorry, I'm not supposed to answer 16
- that, correct? 17
- MS. OCKENE: To the extent that you had 18 discussions that didn't involve us, your lawyers, you 19
- can answer the question. Maybe you want to repeat -20 21 BY MS. DALTON:
- 22 Q. My question is, did you have any
- 23 communications with any of your co-plaintiffs
- regarding whether or not to provide Mr. Rider with 24
- any continuing funding past 2003?

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- Correct.
- 1 To your knowledge, were any of those 2 payments intended to end up with Mr. Rider? 3
  - A. No.
- Were any of those payments intended to end up with the Wildlife Advocacy Project?

4

- And media relations, it says approximately
- 5 percent of staff time. And what efforts were those 9 made -- what efforts did those include?
- 10 A. They included any kind of support with the 11
- media in discussing the lawsuit. 12 O. Was there a reason why the ASPCA did not 13
- provide any funding either directly or indirectly to 14
- Mr. Rider following 2003? 15
- A. We had other budgetary needs and we felt 16
- that, for the most part, Mr. Rider had, in previous
- years, done a very good job in working with the media 18
- to discuss the issue. 19
- . O. Did you feel as though Mr. Rider had other 20
- financial support for his efforts? 21
- A. I do not recall. 22
- Q. Do you know if the other plaintiffs in 23
- 24 this lawsuit were still providing Mr. Rider with
- 25 funding following 2003?

- A. Yes. Both with the Fund For Animals and
- AWI and recognizing the good work that Mr. Rider was
- doing and the ASPCA's inability to continue funding
- 4 his expenses to continue that work due to other
- budgetary needs.
- Q. As a result of ASPCA's inability to
- continue funding those expenses, did the Fund For 7
- Animals continue to provide Mr. Rider with continuing
- funding past 2003? 9
- A. I believe they funded some of those 10
- 11
- Q. Were you told of those expenses or their 12
- funding of those expenses during this conversation? 13
- A. There was a discussion about what those 14
- expenses typically would amount to and whether they 15
- could fund them as well. 16
- Q. And what about the Animal Welfare 17
- Institute. Did they continue funding Mr. Rider 18
- following this conversation? 19
- A. I believe they funded him in part. 20
- Q. So following 2003, to the best of your 21
- knowledge, while ASPCA was not providing any funding
- to Mr. Rider, the AWI and the Fund For Animals were? 23
- 24 That's correct.
- Do you know if this funding was being 25

21 (Pages 78 to 81)

#### Page 202 Page 204 since 1996? 1 incident, I've heard about it, but I'm not that A. PETA was opposed to some of the 2 familiar with the charges or what happened. legislation we were working on and so they would 3 3 Q. Has ASPCA ever complained to Feld contact us expressing their disapproval. Entertainment directly about the care of animals at Q. Have you collaborated on any projects 5 Ringling Bros.? 6 since 1996? 6 A. Not that I'm aware of. 7 A. No. 7 MS. OCKENE: You're talking about other 8 So other than PETA contacting you to than the notice letters in this case? oppose certain legislation you were working on, 9 MS. DALTON: Yes. you've had no contact -- when I say you, I mean the 10 THE WITNESS: Not that I'm aware of. ASPCA entity has not had any contact? 11 11 BY MS. DALTON: A. Let me amend that. They contacted us, I 12 12 Q. Since 1996, has ASPCA had any 13 believe it was sometime last year, to write a letter 13 communications with anybody working for Feld? 14 to the Manhattan district attorney to pursue and 14 15 prosecute some researchers at Columbia University in 15 Q. We've talked about Tom Rider, so I just 16 their lack of humane care and a violation of the want to confirm that ASPCA has not had any contact state cruelty law with their use of baboons in some 17 with any other former Ringling employee since 1996? 18 research project. 18 A. As far as I know, we have not. Q. And what was the ASPCA's response? 19 19 MS. DALTON: I would like to mark Exhibit 20 A. We reviewed their complaint and we decided 20 23. 21 to issue a letter to the Manhattan DA urging him to 21 (ASPCA Exhibit No. 23 was look into the matter. And we felt that based on the marked for identification.) 22 information we were given, that there were reasonable 23 BY MS. DALTON: 24 grounds that they violated the state anticruelty 24 This is a fund-raiser for a July 21st, 25 statute. 25 2005 fund-raiser, correct? Page 203 Page 205 Q. So other than the letter regarding the 1 A. Correct. 2 Columbia University researchers and their sporadic Q. And this benefit is in part hosted by the 3 or I don't know how often they write to you in ASPCA, correct? 4 opposition to -- I'm just lumping their letters in 4 A. Correct. opposition to your positions as one kind of type of 5 5 Q. Who from the ASPCA helped coordinate this 6 contact. event, or I should say helping to coordinate this 7 7 A. Right. event as it's in the future? Q. And the second contact being the Columbia 8 A. Jo Sullivan who is our senior vice 9 University letter. Can you recall any other 9 president for development. 10 contacts? 10 Q. Anybody else from ASPCA involved in A. Yes. The other contact was they were very 11 11 coordinating this event? 12 critical of our relationship with Iams pet food 12 A. Our public relations firm has been company. And one of our senior vice presidents 13 assisting. sitting on an advisory board regarding Iams' work 14 14 Q. And which firm is that? 15 with dogs and nutritional research that was being 15 A. GF Schwartz & Company. 16 done. 16 Q. Anybody else in house? 17 Q. Can you think of anything else? 17 A. I assisted a little bit. 18 A. No. 18 Q. So besides you and Joe, anybody else you 19 Q. Does the ASPCA have a position on PETA's 19 can think of? 20 euthanization of animals? 20 A. No. 21 A. I'm not aware of that. That's a recent 21 Whose idea was it to hold this event? incident and I don't know if we do or not. 22 22 A. I think it was really the three plaintiffs 23 Q. Are you aware of the recent arrest of two 23 so that we can continue to support Tom Rider in his

25

24 PETA employees for animal cruelty?

A. If you're referring to this euthanasia

24

25

outreach to the public and the media.

Q. When did ASPCA decide to co-host this