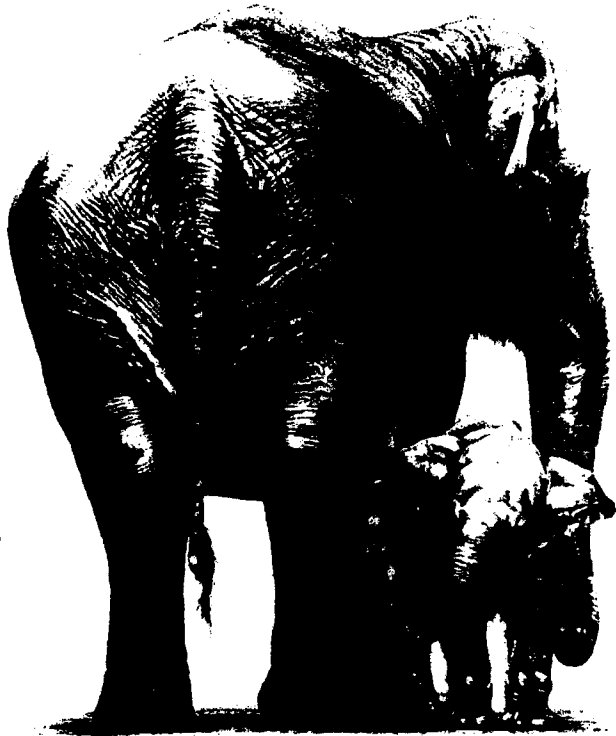


EXHIBIT A



AWI 09925

Please join

ED BEGLEY JR.

and

VALERIE HARPER

*at a benefit to rescue Asian Elephants from abuse
by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*

Hosted by

*the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,
Animal Welfare Institute,
and Humane Society of the United States*

*on Thursday, the twenty-first of July
two-thousand and five
Half past six in the evening*

*Home of Patty Shenker & Doug Stoll
971 Enchanted Way
Pacific Palisades, California*

The benefit will include:

- A light vegan buffet dinner and cocktails
- Never-before-seen video footage of mistreatment of elephants at the Ringling Bros. Circus
- Eye-witness accounts of elephant abuse by Tom Rider and other former Ringling Bros. employees
- A question and answer session led by the attorneys handling the lawsuit against Ringling Bros.
- Concluding remarks by Wayne Pacelle, CEO and president of the Humane Society of the United States

Directions will be provided to all attendees in advance of the benefit.

Please join us in this unique opportunity to help end the abuse of circus elephants who are beaten and chained for most of their lives...

In an innovative case and the first of its kind in the country, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) and Fund for Animals (which has recently joined forces with the Humane Society of the United States) have sued Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey under the Endangered Species Act for its mistreatment of Asian elephants.

The three non-profit organizations are joined by former Ringling Bros. employee Tom Rider, who left the circus to speak out about the elephant abuse he witnessed on a daily basis. Rider worked with the elephants for over two years and grew to love their extraordinary intelligence and gentle nature.

Numerous eye-witness accounts and other evidence of the mistreatment of the elephants, including the deaths of several baby elephants, has been collected for the lawsuit. Unfortunately, the non-profit organizations are up against Feld Entertainment—the parent company of Ringling Bros. and one of the richest corporations in the world. Therefore, we desperately need your help to raise money so we can successfully wage this battle on behalf of the elephants.



ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED

Kindly reply on or before July 14, 2005

Name(s): _____

_____ number of guests x \$1.25 per ticket

Enclosed is my check (made out to the Animal Welfare Institute)

Please charge my Visa/MasterCard \$ _____

Card #: _____ Exp. date: ____ / ____

Authorized signature: _____

Sorry, I wish I could be there, but my heart is with you.

Enclosed is my donation of: \$1000 \$500 \$100 Other _____

** All donations are tax-deductible. Respondents to this invitation will not be placed on any donor base list for solicitations or mailings that are not directly related to this benefit.*