USDA
RECEIVED
JAN 05 2016
OALJ / HCO
WASH, DC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:	)	AWA Docket No. 15-0164
	)	
LINDA THORP, an individual, doing business as Sky Blue Ranch, Inc., Sky Blue Ranch, SBR Inc. at Sky Ranch, and AIM Pets,	)	
	)	CONSENT DECISION
Respondent.	)	AND ORDER

This proceeding was instituted under the Animal Welfare Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq.)(AWA or Act), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture (APHIS), on August 6, 2015, alleging that the respondent willfully violated the Act and the regulations and standards issued pursuant to the Act (9 C.F.R. § 1.1 et seq.)(Regulations and Standards). This decision is entered pursuant to the consent decision provisions of the Rules of Practice applicable to this proceeding (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in the complaint and specifically admits that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admits nor denies the remaining allegations waives oral hearing and further procedure, and consents and agrees, for the purpose of settling this proceeding, to the entry of this decision. The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. At all times mentioned in the complaint, respondent Linda Thorp was an individual doing business variously as Sky Blue Ranch, Inc., Sky Blue Ranch, SBR Inc. at Sky Ranch, and AIM Pets, and whose business mailing address is or was 1821 Quarry Trail, Winterset, Iowa 50273. At all times mentioned in the complaint, respondent Thorp was a dealer, as that term is defined in the Act and the Regulations. Respondent Thorp held AWA license number 42-A-1140

under the name "Sky Blue Ranch, Inc." Sky Blue Ranch, Inc., was not a corporation or other legal entity. AWA license 42-A-1140 was terminated on September 23, 2013.

2. At all times mentioned in the complaint, respondent Thorp was also the principal of Saddle Bark Ranch, Inc., an Iowa corporation (No. 218871) through which respondent Thorp operated as an intermediate handler, as that term is used in the Act and the Regulations (registration number 42-H-0006). Saddle Bark Ranch, Inc., was dissolved December 14, 2014.

Conclusions of Law

Respondent having admitted the findings and conclusions set forth above, and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

Order

1. Respondent, her agents and employees, successors and assigns, directly or through any corporate or other device, shall cease and desist from violating the Act and the Regulations and Standards issued thereunder.

2. AWA license 42-A-1140 is hereby revoked.

3. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of $7,500, to be made payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

The provisions of this order shall become effective immediately. Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

[redacted]

Linda Thorp 12/18/15
Respondent

[redacted]

Colleen A. Carroll
Lauren E. Becker
Attorneys for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.,

this 5 day of JAN ~~2015~~ 2016

[redacted] for

Administrative Law Judge
Janice K. Bullard

7003 1010 0001 7367 3032

PLACE STICKER AT TOP OF ENVELOPE TO THE RIGHT OF THE RETURN ADDRESS, FOLD AT DOTTED LINE

CERTIFIED MAIL™

7003 1010 0001 7367 3032

7003 1010 0001 7367 3032

U.S. Postal Service™

CERTIFIED MAIL™ RECE

(Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance C

For delivery information visit our webs

OFFICI

Postage $

Certified Fee

Return Reciept Fe
(Endorsement Requir

Restricted Deliv
(Endorsement

Total

S

Street,
or PO Bo

City, State, Z

mark
Here

LINDA FAYE HARMELINK
929 JAKE PHARRIS RD
MORGANTOWN, KY 42261-9542

PS Form 3800, Jun 2002

See Reverse for Instructions