



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:) Docket No. 14-0013
)
)
) Larry Edwards, Paige Edwards,)
) Carl Edwards & Sons, Inc.,)
) Nancy Groover)
)
) Respondents)

CONSENT DECISION AS TO NANCY GROOVER

This proceeding was instituted under the Horse Protection Act ("Act"), as amended (15 U.S.C. § 1821 et seq.), by a complaint filed by the Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the respondent violated the Act. 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 Nancy Groover admits the jurisdictional allegations in paragraph I of 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 and for such purposes only, to the entry of this decision.

The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

Findings of Fact

1. Nancy Groover is an individual whose mailing address is 3500 Stewart Circle, Waco, Texas 76708. Nancy Groover was the owner of the horse called "I'm Tex-Anna".

2. On or about August 25, 2012, Nancy Groover allowed the entry of a horse known as "I'm Tex-Anna" as Entry No. 1499, Class No. 73B at the 74th Annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration in Shelbyville, Tennessee for the purpose of showing or exhibiting the horse.

Conclusions

Respondent having admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

Order

1. Respondent Nancy Groover is assessed a civil penalty of \$1,000.

2. Respondent Nancy Groover is disqualified for eight months from showing, exhibiting, or entering any horse, directly or indirectly through any agent, employee, or other device, and from judging, managing or otherwise participating in any horse show, horse exhibition, or horse sale or auction. "Participating" means engaging in any activity beyond that of a spectator, and includes, without limitation, transporting or arranging for the transportation of horses to or from equine events, personally giving instructions to exhibitors, being present in the warm-up or inspection areas, or in any area where spectators are not allowed, and financing the participation of others in equine events. The disqualification shall start on the first day of the month following the month in which the consent decision was signed by the respondent.

This order shall have the same effect as if entered after a full hearing and shall become effective on issuance.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

[Redacted signature]

Nancy Groover *April 15, 2014*
Respondent

[Redacted signature]

Sharlene Deskins
Attorney for Complainant

Done at Washington, D.C.
this 28 day of April, 2014

[Redacted signature]

Jill S. Clifton
Administrative Law Judge