



Inspection Report

City of Santa Ana
1801 East Chestnut Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Customer ID: **3557**
Certificate: **93-C-0101**
Site: 001
CITY OF SANTA ANA

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 05-MAR-2024

2.40(b)(3) Critical

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

On records inspection of 3/5/2024, it was found that Tobey, ID B11025, a female Greater rhea (hatched on 08/25/2011), was weighed on 8/19/2021 at 23.3 kg. This was an 18% decrease from the last recorded weigh-in of 5/28/2018 at 28.3 kg. The attending veterinarian was not informed of this significant decrease, (5 kg or 11 lbs.), in Tobey's body weight.

Two years later, a keeper noted that Tobey looked visually lean on 8/25/2022. Once again, this information was not conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

Finally, on 10/15/2023 Tobey's weigh-in was recorded as 9.7 kg. This was a 58% decrease from the last recorded weigh-in of 23.3 kg. The attending veterinarian was informed of the rhea's condition and veterinary care was started on 10/15/2023 but Tobey died 3 days later on 10/18/2023.

These consecutive instances of inadequate direct and frequent communication with the attending veterinarian and inadequate daily observations led to the lack of timely veterinary care being provided for Tobey and ultimately resulted in the rhea's death on 10/18/2023. The necropsy report gross exam findings included a "...thin/ sharp keel, generalized muscle atrophy and emaciated pectoralis musculature..." The histopathology report concluded the cause of death was from "inanition and chronic inflammation of the biliary tree. The inflammation is likely ascending from the gastrointestinal tract, which could be consistent with the clinical history of a foreign body."

Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being; provided, however, that daily observation of animals may be accomplished by someone other than the attending veterinarian; and provided further, that a mechanism of direct and frequent communication is required so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

Corrected on 2/9/2024.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with facility representatives.

Prepared By: BONNIE BOONE
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Date:
08-MAR-2024

Received by Title: Representative

Date:
08-MAR-2024



Inspection Report

Prepared By: BONNIE BOONE

USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Date:
08-MAR-2024

Received by Title: Representative

Date:
08-MAR-2024



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3557	93-C-0101	001	CITY OF SANTA ANA	05-MAR-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Rhea americana</i>	GREATER RHEA / AMERICAN RHEA
000001	Total	