



## Inspection Report

Zoo Miami  
12400 Sw 152nd St  
Miami, FL 33177

Customer ID: **3099**  
Certificate: **58-C-0006**  
Site: 001  
ZOO MIAMI

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION  
Date: 14-DEC-2016

### 2.131(b)(1)

#### HANDLING OF ANIMALS.

On December 13, 2016, approximately at 2:00 pm, and during a training session, one of three keepers assigned to the Sumatran tiger exhibit was bit by an adult male tiger named "Berani." While conducting training, the keeper was hand/palm feeding pieces of meat to the tiger through the mesh barrier. Unfortunately, the keeper's left index finger slipped through along with meat, and consequently the tiger bit off the tip of the finger. The keeper did not follow established safety and hand-feeding procedures and policies. The facility's established policy is for keepers to not hand-feed carnivores; keepers must use tongs and/or other tools to feed carnivores.

Even though the tiger was always contained and was not physically harmed, the used training protocol (painting) may have caused unnecessary behavioral stress to the animal. Officials at the facility communicated that safety, hand-feeding and training protocols/policies will be re-examined, and to prevent similar incidents, if needed, these would be amended.

This was a focused inspection limited to the tiger incident, the associated tiger's primary enclosure, housing areas and exhibit.

The particulars that led to the incident and interaction between the tiger and keeper are currently under internal review by officials at Zoo Miami.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with Mr. Matthew James, Chief of the Animal Science Division at Zoo Miami.

Prepared By: MARIO MERCADO, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
15-DEC-2016

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6086

Received by Title: SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Date:  
15-DEC-2016



## Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
3099	58-C-0006	001	ZOO MIAMI	14-DEC-16

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	TIGER
<b>000001</b>	<b>Total</b>	