Tregembo Animal Park

5811 Carolina Beach Rd., Wilmington, NC 28412

Tregembo Animal Park, owned by Robert Tregembo, has failed to meet minimum federal standards for the care of animals used in exhibition, as established by the Animal Welfare Act (AWA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has cited it for failing to maintain housing facilities in a structurally sound manner that prevents injury to the animals, failing to provide necessary veterinary care, failing to have a primate enrichment plan that adequately addresses the social and environmental needs of nonhuman primates, and failing to sanitize structures properly on many occasions. The facility has also experienced two break-ins, resulting in the removal and death of animals.

December 12, 2024: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to maintain the camel enclosure in good condition to protect the camel from injury. An 8-foot section of fence had become rusty, with severe corrosion along the bottom edge, leaving gaps that could allow the camel to get his toes caught and become injured. There was also a portion of metal on the wall that had rolled back and become separated from the panel.

July 24, 2023: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to have an attendant present during the interaction of three groups of patrons with goats, sheep, capybara, and zebu.

October 4, 2021: The USDA issued Tregembo Animal Park a repeat citation for failing to provide adequate veterinary care. Sasha, a white tiger, had a 1.5-inch open wound along the edge of her left ear, and a camel's left eye was closed, with moderate tear staining below it. The attending veterinarian hadn't been contacted to examine either animal. A citation was also issued for failing to have an adequate program of fly control. A serval was observed to be in distress, biting at numerous flies and flicking his or her ears repeatedly.

February 2, 2021: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park with a direct violation for failing to notify a veterinarian that Kim, a 17-year-old pot-bellied pig, was lame in both rear legs. She had a persistent hunched posture with significant stiffness when she moved either rear leg.

Tregembo was also cited for failing to clean eight puzzle feeders properly. They were attached to enclosures in the indoor primate housing, which were coated with brown debris. It was also cited for failing to keep enclosures in good repair. A board on the goat ramp was dislodged and was on the ground near the ramp. The gap on the ramp posed a tripping or limb entrapment risk for the goats. One-quarter of the enclosure fence between the aoudads and the water buffaloes was leaning into the water buffalo enclosure, posing an animal containment risk because of the compromised structural integrity. Rusted areas along the bottom of the primary enclosure fence in the kangaroo area posed a laceration risk to the animals. And the back right corner of the red river hogs' housing structure had peeled metal, leaving an approximately 8-inch-wide opening with exposed sharp edges that posed a laceration risk to the hogs.

June 19, 2017: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide a female black leopard named Shadow with

adequate veterinary care. She had approximately 1.5 centimeters of "pink tissue exposed past the haired tip of the tail." Such exposed tissue can lead to infection. According to facility representatives, no veterinary examination or veterinary care had been provided.

February 10, 2016: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to house monkeys in enclosures free from damage and hazards and failing to implement a thorough cleaning and sanitization program for multiple enclosures housing animals, posing health hazards to them.

May 4, 2015: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park with a repeat violation for failing to provide a bear with facial lesions with necessary veterinary care.

April 29, 2015: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for not repairing an enclosure housing a goat and failing to provide a bear, who had severe facial lesions that were causing the animal to lose vision, with proper veterinary care.

August 15, 2011: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide monkeys with a structurally sound enclosure and failing to provide a lion, who had multiple areas of irritated skin, with veterinary care.

September 1, 2010: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide a primate enrichment plan that adequately addresses the social and environmental needs of nonhuman primates. One monkey was observed to be pacing the cage and engaging in head-tossing, one was repetitively doing backflips, and another was slightly rocking.

March 18, 2009: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to repair several gaps under the fence where the potbellied pigs are housed and failing to keep the cages housing primates properly sterilized. They contained excessive fecal material.

December 1, 2008: According to a Wilmington, North Carolina, news source, two people broke into Tregembo Animal Park and took a prairie dog.

September 18, 2007: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for having several gaps under the fence where the potbellied pigs are housed.

May 24, 2007: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for a repeat violation for failing to repair structural damage to the enclosure housing the camels.

November 9, 2006: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for having structural damage to a pen housing camels and failing to keep the cages for the primates properly clean and sanitized.

May 18, 2006: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide a new white tiger with protection from inclement weather and failing to remove trash in the pen housing pigs.

October 31, 2005: According to a Wilmington, North Carolina, news source, someone broke into Tregembo Animal Park, beat a prairie dog to death, and threw the animal into the enclosure housing the lion. The intruder also took six snakes.

June 29, 2004: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide a spider monkey, who was being housed alone, with social enrichment.

May 5, 2004: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide two

camels with adequate shelter from inclement weather and failing to provide a binturong with veterinary care. For a week, the animal hadn't been able to walk properly.

February 9, 2004: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to trim overgrown hooves on a male aoudad and failing to have a perimeter fence that meets height requirements for dangerous animals.

December 8, 2003: The USDA cited Tregembo Animal Park for failing to provide a written program of veterinary care, failing to conduct a veterinary exam for a black leopard who had ocular discharge and was drooling, and failing to provide monkeys with the minimum amount of space required.