



IN DEFENSE OF ANIMALS

July 29, 2010

Elizabeth Goldentyer, DVM
Regional Director
USDA-APHIS Animal Care
920 Main Campus Drive, Ste. 200
Raleigh, NC 27606

VIA FAX: 919-855-7123

Dear Dr. Goldentyer:

Please consider this letter an official complaint regarding the July 28, 2010 death of Dondi, a 36-year-old Asian elephant held at the Southwick's Zoo in Mendon, Mass., but owned by Phil Schacht (license #14-C-0106, customer #3292).

Considering the relatively young age of this elephant and the reportedly swift onset of death, we ask that you investigate the circumstances surrounding Dondi's death, as a matter of public interest and public safety. As you are aware, Dondi was in direct contact with the public while giving rides at the Southwick's Zoo and, during the winter months, at Flea World in Florida and other locations.

IDA urges the USDA to fully investigate the conditions surrounding Dondi's death, including all medical records and necropsy reports.

Sincerely,

Catherine Doyle
Elephant Campaign Director
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