

Major:

Megan Russell in Permits has received complaints on the following wildlife rehabilitator:

Amanda Lollar, Bat World Sanctuary
217 N. Oak Ave.
Mineral Wells, Texas 76067

Most of the complaint issues are local law enforcement concerns. However, Megan is concerned about the allegation that Ms. Lollar is intentionally breeding bats, which is a violation of the permit conditions. Please assign or forward this complaint as you see fit. Thanks.

Scott Vaca
Assistant Chief of Wildlife Enforcement

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
Office: 512-389-4626
Fax: 512-389-8400

Texas Game Wardens Serving Texans Since 1895 - Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

From: David Modgling
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2011 5:23 PM
To: Pat Canan
Cc: David Sinclair
Subject: FW: Bat World Sanctuary

Matt and I went to the Bat World Sanctuary and talked to Amanda Lollar and took a tour of the facilities. We couldn't find anything wrong. There are bats that are reproducing at the facility but it is occurring naturally. Apparently she has a person that is trying to cause trouble with her over a lawsuit. This person appears to make a habit of getting involved with organizations and then filing lawsuits against them. The attachments are information from the lawsuit.

From: Bat World Sanctuary [mailto:sanctuary@batworld.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 12:40 PM
To: Open Records
Subject: Information request

Dear Laura Russel,

Please see the attached files. I would like to know if either I or my organization is still under investigation as per a letter from you to Ms. Cummins which was written in May of this year. If we are still under investigation, can you please direct me to a department that can help me answer questions as to why?

Thank you for your time.

Amanda Lollar

Amanda Lollar
Founder and President
Bat World Sanctuary, Inc.
www.batworld.org

A non-profit, all volunteer conservation
organization providing rescue for bats worldwide.
Please join us on Facebook and Twitter!
PLEASE GO GREEN, print only if necessary

Subject: RE: Information request
From: Open Records (Open.Records@tpwd.state.tx.us)
To: sanctuary@batworld.org;
Cc: Open.Records@tpwd.state.tx.us;
Date: Tue, 23 Aug 2011 14:22:52

Dear Ms. Lollar,

According to one of our game wardens, there is no current active investigation. Please let me know if you have any other questions, and have a good day.

Laura Russell
Attorney
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
T: (512) 389-8335
F: (512) 389-4482

From: Laura Russell <Laura.Russell@tpwd.state.tx.us>
To: Bat World Sanctuary <sanctuary@batworld.org>
Cc: Open Records <Open.Records@tpwd.state.tx.us>
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2011 2:25 PM
Subject: FW: Investigation of Bat World Sanctuary

Dear Ms. Lollar,

Please see the email below from Asst. Chief Vaca regarding your request. Let me know if you have any questions, and have a good day.

Laura Russell
Attorney
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
T: (512) 389-8335
F: (512) 389-4482

From: Scott Vaca
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2011 9:52 AM
To: Mitch Lockwood; Laura Russell; Megan Russell
Cc: Butch Shoop
Subject: RE: Investigation of Bat World Sanctuary

All:

LE did an inspection. No violations were found, so no warnings or citations were issued.

Scott Vaca
Assistant Chief of Wildlife Enforcement

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
Office: 512-389-4626
Fax: 512-389-8400

Texas Game Wardens Serving Texans Since 1895 - Law Enforcement Off the Pavement

Laura Russell

From: Mitch Lockwood
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 9:57 PM
To: Boyd Kennedy; Laura Russell; Scott Vaca; Megan Russell
Subject: RE: Bat World Sanctuary subject of law enforcement investigation by USDA

From: Mary Cummins [mailto:mmmaryinla@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 10:25 AM
To: Boyd Kennedy; Mitch Lockwood; Laura Russell; Scott Vaca; Megan Russell
Subject: Re: Bat World Sanctuary subject of law enforcement investigation by USDA

Do you want copies of the libel and defamation? I'll gladly send it.

Your wardens and the rehab coordinator did find violations of Texas wildlife laws. They found that she is illegally breeding bats. Lollar even admitted this in writing. Rehabbers are not allowed to breed the animals.

Mary Cummins
Animal Advocates
<http://www.AnimalAdvocates.us>

-----Original Message-----

From: Boyd Kennedy <Boyd.Kennedy@tpwd.state.tx.us>
To: Mary Cummins <mmmaryinla@aol.com>; Mitch Lockwood <Mitch.Lockwood@tpwd.state.tx.us>; Laura Russell <Laura.Russell@tpwd.state.tx.us>; Scott Vaca <Scott.Vaca@tpwd.state.tx.us>; Megan Russell <Megan.Russell@tpwd.state.tx.us>
Sent: Wed, Jul 13, 2011 6:04 am
Subject: RE: Bat World Sanctuary subject of law enforcement investigation by USDA

Dear Ms. Cummins: This is to advise you that TPWD will not be responding to any further allegations from you concerning Amanda Lollar's facility. Representatives of the TPWD Law Enforcement Division visited that facility earlier this year and found no violations of the Texas wildlife laws. In light of this information and your baseless claim that someone at TPWD is libeling and defaming you, we consider the matter closed.

Boyd Kennedy
Staff Attorney

From: "Juarez, Bernadette R - APHIS" <Bernadette.R.Juarez@aphis.usda.gov>
To: "'sanctuary@batworld.org'" <sanctuary@batworld.org>
Cc: "Gibbens, Robert - APHIS" <Robert.M.Gibbens@aphis.usda.gov>; "Shea, Kevin A - APHIS" <Kevin.A.Shea@aphis.usda.gov>; "Huttenlocker, Robert J - APHIS" <Robert.J.Huttenlocker@aphis.usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2011 6:00 PM
Subject: Pending FOIA Request for Bat World Investigation

Ms. Lollar:

I write on behalf of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and in response to your inquiry about the status of our investigation involving your facility known as Bat World.

Please know that we have just concluded our fact finding investigation involving Bat World and, based on the evidence in our possession, did not identify any violations under the Animal Welfare Act in connection with the issues that we examined. We plan to provide APHIS' Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Office with a copy of our final fact finding investigative report on October 4. I understand that you have a pending FOIA request in which you seek a copy of this report, and I am committed to ensuring that you receive a copy of the report as soon as possible. I will confer with APHIS' FOIA Office tomorrow and send you a second email message to let you know when and how you should expect to receive your copy of the report.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Bernadette Juarez
Deputy Director, APHIS, Investigative and Enforcement Services

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

From: Gibbens, Robert - APHIS
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2011 9:25 AM
To: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) - APHIS
Cc: Nickerson, Eric S - APHIS; Fordahl, Timothy R - APHIS (b)(6)(b)(7)(C)
(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Subject: Re: TX11418-AC; Bat World Sanctuary

Yes - no violation. Thanks.

From: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2011 07:02 AM
To: Gibbens, Robert - APHIS
Cc: Nickerson, Eric S - APHIS; Fordahl, Timothy R - APHIS
Subject: TX11418-AC; Bat World Sanctuary

Hi Dr. Gibbens,

By now you should have received the program copy of subject case prepared as a No Violation report by (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) documented the matter as 'no violation' based on the evidence compiled regarding this matter and his earlier discussion with you re same.

Please advise if you are still in agreement with closing this matter as no violation, and if so, I'll see about doing so and getting the original submitted to IES HQ.

Thanks,

(b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

INVESTIGATIVE AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

Case Number: TX11418-AC

Subject(s): Bat World Sanctuary
(Contact Information) 217 N. Oak Avenue
Mineral Wells, TX 76067
(940) 325-3404

Investigator: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
(Contact Information) IES Sr. Investigator
2150 Centre Ave., Bldg. B (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)
Ft. Collins, CO 80526
Cell: (b)(6), (b)(7)(C)

Date of Report: September 16, 2011

- ☐ Substantiated allegation(s)
- ☒ No violation(s)
- ☐ Insufficient evidence
- ☐ Fact finding
- ☐ Contains Confidential Business Information

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

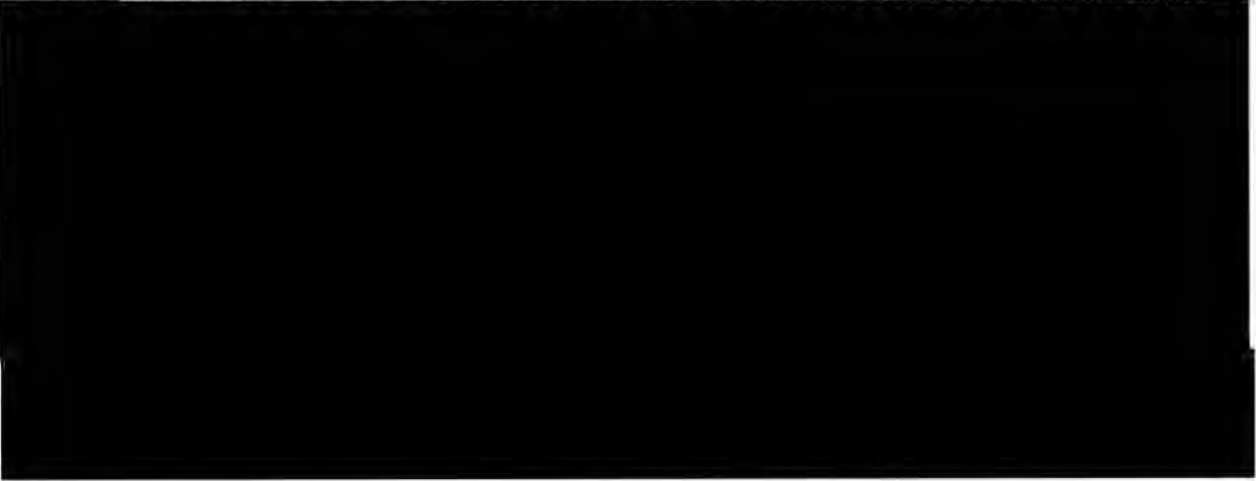
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☐ Reviewer(s) _____

Complaint results:

I visited Bat World Sanctuary on May 9, 2011 to address multiple complaints from one individual against Amanda Lollar and Bat World Sanctuary. Most of those complaints centered around emergency medical care provided to the animals. The complaints referred over and over again to inappropriate veterinary procedures performed by Ms Lollar and referenced in Ms Lollar's current book on bat care. In reviewing the literature published in the book and speaking with Ms Lollar I see no cause for concern. All veterinary procedures seem appropriate and within current standards of veterinary care. Bat World Sanctuary's consulting veterinarian provided a letter stating that he has personally trained Ms Lollar on these emergency procedures and has contributed to and reviewed the information in the book. He is confident in her ability to handle these emergencies and in her ability to identify cases where he should be involved, such as surgeries involving open body cavities, spays, neuters and rabies vaccinations.

Furthermore, in speaking with Ms Lollar and reviewing sections of the book, the complainant's accusations seem to be inconsistent with Ms Lollar's recommendations and what is documented in the



I have visited Bat World Sanctuary multiple times over the past three years. The facility has always been clean and well organized. I have never encountered a strong ammonia smell which is very common in many bat enclosures. The resident bats have always appeared healthy. The rehab bats and babies are housed in a separate quarantine area and this area has always been clean and the bats appeared to be receiving more than adequate care. I spoke with the local Texas Parks and Wildlife Law Enforcement Agent in the area. He concurred with my assessment. The place is clean and well organized and the bats look happy and healthy.

There is absolutely no evidence confirming any of the accusations made by the complainant. On the contrary, Ms Lollar appears to be providing exceptional care as required under the Animal Welfare Act.