We believe that you violated the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq.) (AWA), as described below.

Date of Violation: November 1, 2011
9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c)(1) Handling of Animals. (c)(1) During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distances and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

You failed to ensure that animals were handled so there was minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public. You allowed a member of the public to come in direct contact with an adult lion.

Date of Violation: Between December 19, 2011 and March 3, 2012
9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c) Handling of Animals. (c)(1) During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distances and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

You failed to ensure that animals were handled so there was minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public. You allowed members of the public to come in direct contact with juvenile lions whose age and size made them too fast and strong and created a risk of harm.

Date of Violation: March 10, 2012
9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c) Handling of Animals. (c)(1) During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distances and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

You failed to ensure that animals were handled so there was minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public. You allowed a member of the public to conduct a photo shoot for personal gain with an unrestrained adult tiger named Chuffy and two lion cubs.
Date of Violation: May 25, 2012

9 C.F.R. § 2.131(c)(1) Handling of Animals. (c)(1) During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distances and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.

You failed to ensure that animals were handled so there was minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public. You allowed a member of the public to come in direct contact with a juvenile bear whose age and size made him too fast and strong and created a risk of harm.

Date of Violation: April 3, 2014

9 C.F.R. § 2.40(b)(3) Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinarian care (dealers and exhibitors). (b) Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: (3) Daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being.

You failed to establish and maintain programs of veterinary care that included daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being. APHIS officials observed the following:
1) A seven year old tiger named Dana, who was treated on 10/01/2012, for a recurring eye problem which improved. On 1/11/2014, it was noted on site records that the eye was runny again and the veterinarian authorized a refill for triple antibiotic ointment for the eye. At the time of inspection the left eye appeared painful with a protruding third eyelid, redness, and staining on the face from discharge. The eye had not been evaluated by a veterinarian and was not under treatment.
2) A five year old Lynx named Nasha moved cautiously as if there was pain in the limbs. Symptoms were not noted and the animal was not under treatment by a veterinarian.

Date of Violation: August 1, 2014

9 C.F.R. § 2.131(e) Handling of Animals. (e) When climatic conditions present a threat to an animal’s health or well-being, appropriate measures must be taken to alleviate the impact of those conditions.

You failed to ensure that appropriate measures were taken to alleviate the impact of climatic changes on the animals. APHIS officials reported that at the time of the inspection the temperature reached 106° F, the surface temperatures of the decks were around 127°F, and a Kestrel thermometer reading in the shade inside a typical enclosure was 105°F. Many of the felines were panting and some appeared uncomfortably hot and lethargic. Although the bears and the fishing cat had additional basins of water besides drinking water, no other cooling measures had been taken.

The penalty for the alleged violation(s) described above is $5,464.