

Larry Wheelon Stables- Summary

Dr. Cezar,

On 4/18/2013, Dr. Bart Sutherland and I met with Special Agent Julie McMillan, OIG for briefing. We arrived at Larry Wheelon Stables at approximately 0725. Julie and deputies secured the property and told us to begin the search.

I captured a complete overview & barn walk by Dr. Sutherland. The walk through ended in the office where we began our search. Many medications were found and captured on the video. A taser was found on top of the desk. As we proceeded into a tack room behind the office, chemicals and liquid mixtures were found on the shelf behind some bridles. One of these canisters contained Mustard Oil.

We joined Julie in the back area and proceed to search the medicine cabinets. Many chemicals, unlabeled mixtures and caustic agents were found. We found a jar that had red tape around it. The following was how it was explained to us by the stable hand:

“Tea” is what they call it. It is a mixture of 10cc Cinnamon Oil & approx. 200cc of Kerosene. They just take a small brush and brush it in about an inch above the coronary band.

You will see the jar in the photos & video & Dr. Sutherland explaining the application process. Once we took the lid off....it was obvious that it's what we've smelled at the shows & couldn't quite figure out the odor.

After the medication cabinets had been searched, Julie told us that we could proceed with the horse inspections. We conducted the inspections in the alley way between the stalls.

At least 4 of the horses were seen standing with their back ends tucked in under them. They were close to standing on a bucket. Three horses were found lying down and moaning at different times of the day. I was only able to capture 1 of these horses on film, but I filmed it at 2 different times, trying to get up.

All of the horses reacted when I touched them with the sample swab. The scars were so inflamed and sore, that I could not get the swab down inside the crevices without the horses raring up. The horse's feet & legs were so wet with foreign substance that it can be seen in the photos.

I would ask that when you look at the photos that you pay close attention to the bulbs and the hooves. I don't even know how to put it into words. You can definitely see the damage that the foreign substance causes. All portions of the lower legs and hooves were dripping with foreign substance that it was leaking down onto the pads and under the hooves. One horse, Laura Kate's anterior hooves were separated from the coronary band and on the video & a couple of the photos, you will see a tissue like substance kinda bubbling up and out of the hoof wall.

It just made me see things much different. We see any of this at the shows. They use to much junk to cover it up. I haven't seen stuff this bad since I was a cruelty investigator in TX. I knew it was rough, but it just proved to me that these horses are really being treated badly the whole time they are not at the shows. (Sorry for my opinion there.)

There was one horse, Broadway Joe that was so sore, that when I tried to sample the left foot, he flipped his foot up & up & caught me with the pad. We did not get him sampled. Dr. Sutherland attempted to inspect him, but Broadway Joe wouldn't let him get near his left foot. He did get the right foot up, but one touch & the horse jump right out from under Bart. All of that is captured on film. Sweep Sister was another horse that we did not get palpated or photos on. We did get samples on her though.

I am sending you a full copy of all 3 original videos and a cd of all of the photos. I think it is important that Aphis leaders know what these horses have to go through to be able to compete.

I'm included a couple of photos. I'm going to try to have everything finished & in the mail on Wednesday.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev