

## LETTER TO EXPERTS

**Sample**

<Date>

<Name>

<Address>

<City, state, zip code>

Dear <Name>:

We are campaigning to put an end to the abuse of wild animals in traveling exhibits. We hope that we can count on your support.

There is a growing concern over the ethical considerations involved in using exotic animals for “entertainment.” Treated as nothing more than equipment, animals used in traveling shows are packed and unpacked in an endless string of exhibitions. Forced to endure large and often boisterous crowds, the animals live in a perpetual state of discomfort, frustration, and fear. Focused on the running of the display (and making money), the animal handler often neglects the most basic needs of the animals, including rest, food, and water. are often neglected. These conditions can and do lead to tragedy.

In one widely publicized incident, an elephant named Tyke rampaged in Honolulu, killing her trainer and injuring more than a dozen spectators before police killed her. Many lawsuits were filed against the circus, the police department, and the city of Honolulu. A tiger cub belonging to Safari Zoological Park, a zoo that hauls animals around to schools, festivals, and store promotions, bit the throat of a 5-year-old child in Kansas. The tiger was killed the next day. A chimpanzee fiercely bit a girl on the hand after posing for a photograph at a Blockbuster store in Tennessee. The girl’s parents filed a \$50,000 lawsuit. Enclosed is a partial list of other dangerous incidents involving elephants, bears, big cats, and primates that further illustrates our concerns.

You can see that public health and safety issues, as well as the cruelty associated with traveling animal displays, cannot be dismissed. A letter of support from you would be a great help to our campaign and to animals.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

<Name, title>