

Activity Card

A21-076445-1**ABUSE/GRNEG**Priority Level: **DAILY**

Total Animals: 1

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: SEE NOTES. LAST ACTIVITY REFERENCE A21-074402

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:**Result Codes:**

1 1021R

1 ERP

1 1021W

Officer: K61

KOENS

Clerk: TOMORRI

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/07/21 02:54 PM

Dispatch Date: 09/08/21 08:12 AM

Working Date: 09/08/21 08:33 AM

Complete Date: 09/08/21 09:11 AM

A21-076445-2**ABUSE/GRNEG**Priority Level: **DAILY**

Total Animals: 1

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: SEE NOTES. LAST ACTIVITY REFERENCE A21-074402

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:**Result Codes:**

1 1021R

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: CKOENS

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/08/21 03:01 PM

Dispatch Date: 09/09/21 09:08 AM

Working Date: 09/09/21 11:07 AM

Complete Date: 09/09/21 11:52 AM

Activity Card

A21-076445-3

ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **DAILY**

Total Animals: 1

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: SEE NOTES. LAST ACTIVITY REFERENCE A21-074402/ CONTACT POSSIBLE WITNESS

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

3 1021R

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: AGGONZA

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/09/21 08:00 AM

Dispatch Date: 09/09/21 09:08 AM

Working Date: 09/09/21 10:22 AM

Complete Date: 09/09/21 11:04 AM

A21-076445-4

ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: CHECK ON THE WELFARE OF HORSES THAT BELONG TO BOB SWEENEY

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

1 1087O

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: AGGONZA

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/09/21 08:00 AM

Dispatch Date: 09/09/21 09:08 AM

Working Date: 09/09/21 12:36 PM

Complete Date: 09/09/21 03:13 PM

Activity Card

A21-076445-5**ABUSE/GRNEG**Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: INTERVIEW POSSIBLE WITNESS
REGARDING HORSES- MAY HAVE INFORMATION

CALLED

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:**Result Codes:**

1 1021R

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: AGGONZA

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/09/21 08:00 AM

Dispatch Date: 09/09/21 09:08 AM

Working Date: 09/09/21 11:05 AM

Complete Date: 09/09/21 11:05 AM

A21-076445-6**ABUSE/GRNEG**Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: INPUT NOTES / PHOTOS OF VISIT

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:**Result Codes:**

1 COMP

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: CHART

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/09/21 03:15 PM

Dispatch Date: 09/09/21 03:15 PM

Working Date: 09/09/21 06:20 PM

Complete Date: 09/09/21 08:49 PM

Activity Card

A21-076445-10 ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address:

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: CONTACT DR.

VET REGARDING HORSES

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY
1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

1 COMP

Officer: K55 VAN ZANDT Clerk: AGGONZA

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/15/21 06:01 PM

Dispatch Date: 09/16/21 08:00 AM

Working Date: 09/16/21 03:13 PM

Complete Date: 09/16/21 03:44 PM

A21-076445-11 ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address:

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: PREPARE AND EMAIL DOCUMENTS FOR INFORMAL REVIEW BY D.D.A.

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY
1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

1 COMP

Officer: K84 GONZALES Clerk: CVANZAN

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/26/21 10:33 AM

Dispatch Date:

Working Date: 10/03/21 09:38 AM

Complete Date: 10/03/21 10:38 AM

Activity Card

A21-076445-12 ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **NORM**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address:
Activity Comment: FOLLOW UP W/ DDA

Zip Code:

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY
1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

1 COMP

Officer: K84 GONZALES Clerk: AGGONZA

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 10/05/21 08:00 AM

Dispatch Date: 10/05/21 02:44 PM

Working Date: 10/05/21 04:41 PM

Complete Date: 10/05/21 04:50 PM

A21-076445-13 ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address:
Activity Comment: RECHECK HORSES MEETING AT 1030 WITH SWEENEY- GATE CODE TO PROPERTY

Zip Code:

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY
1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

1 10870

Officer: K52 HART Clerk: AGGONZA

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 10/03/21 10:39 AM

Dispatch Date: 10/05/21 09:06 AM

Working Date: 10/05/21 10:42 AM

Complete Date: 10/05/21 12:17 PM

Activity Card

A21-076445-7**ABUSE/GRNEG**Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address: 1400 W HWY 246

Zip Code: 93436

Activity Comment: FOLLOW UP WITH

FOR VET RECORDS :

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:**Result Codes:**

1 1087O

1 COMP

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: CHART

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/09/21 08:52 PM

Dispatch Date: 09/11/21 12:02 PM

Working Date: 09/11/21 12:18 PM

Complete Date: 09/11/21 12:44 PM

A21-076445-8**ABUSE/GRNEG**Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address:

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: MEET WITH WITNESS -

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:**Result Codes:**

1 1087W

Officer: K52

HART

Clerk: CHART

Call Date: 09/07/21 01:34 PM

New Date: 09/11/21 12:47 PM

Dispatch Date: 09/11/21 01:01 PM

Working Date: 09/11/21 01:01 PM

Complete Date: 09/11/21 01:43 PM

Activity Card

A21-076445-9

ABUSE/GRNEG

Priority Level: **EMERG**

Total Animals: 3

Animal Type: LV-L

Activity Address:

Zip Code:

Activity Comment: **UPLOAD VIDEO**

Owner Information:

BOB SWEENEY

1605 EDISON ST

Caller Information:

Result Codes:

1 COMP

Officer: **K52**

HART

Clerk: **CHART**

Call Date: **09/07/21 01:34 PM**

New Date: **09/11/21 07:37 PM**

Dispatch Date: **09/13/21 10:15 AM**

Working Date: **09/13/21 10:15 AM**

Complete Date: **09/13/21 12:33 PM**

Memo:

09/07/21 14:24: TJ RP whom is friends with the property owner/works at "SYVS HORSE AND PONY RIDE" says that they are still USING HORSES NOT FIT TO USE FOR WORK DUE TO SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITIONS. RP states that she has group texts from staff with the owner of "SYVS" is deliberately going against the Veterinarian's orders with one pony specifically where the vet stated the pony needed at least 6 months of rest, but the owner took the pony off the property for 5 days and when he brought the pony back, it had boots on its foot to hide the swelling and told the staff "double the dasage of butte and do whatever it takes to make the pony rideable" and had the pony on an hour river ride the next day. RP has video footage of the pony crying in pain, laying on the ground not being able to walk, as well as footage of the pony being riden barely able to walk.

RP would like for an officer to give her a call, that way she can get all the information to them via email and we can have it on file.

09/07/21 16:59 drs called and is waiting a call from an officer. called Koens and he will follow up with the RP drs

09/08/21 08:33 cak: I made contact with by phone. According to the Animal owner/ Business owner Bob Sweeney is not following Veterinary Reccomendations for injured horses and forces them to walk trails. The primary animals of concern at this time according to are "Biscuit" and "Gandolf." stated that she would contact the property owner, an ex-employee and a current employee to provide additional information regarding this case. I called and spoke with the receptionist I requested veterinary records regarding "Biscuit" and "Gandolf" Receptionist stated she would notify the Dr. Receptionist then stated that Dr. was expected to respond to the property today 9/8/2021 generated investigations folder. cak

Activity Card

09/08/21 18:25 agg: received information about another possible witness. I contacted witness, _____ by phone regarding horses. I informed her there was an investigation regarding horses in Buellton. _____ provided the name of the suspected horse owner. _____ stated she had just left 1400 West Highway 246 where she had observed three horses in poor conditions. According to _____, a previous employee by the name of _____ had reached out to _____ regarding concerns over the horses. _____ stated _____ had received statements from customers and other employees regarding their experiences with _____ and observations of the horses poor health. _____ had viewed the following three horses just prior to my call: 1) "Biscuit" Palomino/Paint. _____ had informed her that Biscuit was seen by Vet in April where he was diagnosed with two bow tendons. The horse was placed on a min of 6 months of rest. According to _____, _____ has text threads between the horse's owner (Bob Sweeney) and _____ regarding the Vet's recommendations where Sweeney gave orders to _____ that contradicted the Vet's recommendations and placed the horse in situations that caused needless suffering. The horse was consistently left in Polo wraps overnight, wasn't treating his injuries and forced him to ride. There was a video taken of the horse moaning in pain while it was being ridden. 2) "Fame" Bay/white Paint, pregnant with fractured knee. According to _____, a previous employee, _____ was instructed by Sweeney to drug the lame horses by administering "butte." 3) "Gandolph" gray horse. _____ believed was acquired by Sweeney about a year ago. _____ recalled the horse being in great condition, "beautiful." When she observed the horse today, she was in shock at his appearance. According to _____, the owners of the property at 1400 W Hwy 246 have asked Sweeney to move. _____ had concerns that he would be hiding the horses since people have been expressing their concerns to him. _____ believed Sweeney was moving to the "Williamson Ranch," but didn't know where it was located. I advised _____ that I would reach out to _____ the following day. agg

09/09/21 09:52 agg: emailed _____ a witness statement. agg

09/09/21 09:53 TLS: Received voicemail from additional complainant _____; forwarded voicemail to ACO Supervisor Gonzales. Caller indicated that the horses were starving, "cut up," ponies have bowed tendons, all the horses are sick, they "fall down," and at night they cry. She said she would be willing to help with medical care if the horses are taken from the owner. TLS

09/09/21 10:04 agg: received the following email from _____ Thank you! I'll get this done ASAP. _____ has been getting numbers for lots of eye witnesses who want to make a statement.

They've seen lame and drugged horses collapsing on trail and in the river. They've seen Sweeney order them to drug the horses-ignoring the vet recommendations to retire or rehabilitate. The palomino paint literally cannot move without being drugged up-and the drugs can't even alleviate all the pain.

He's the one moaning in this attached video. The mental abuse and the torture of drugging and working injured horses is horrific.

Every horse there should be blood tested for drugs now-as well as a vet work up for each one.

Previous owners also want to write statements about seeing their horses broken down by Sweeney.

_____ has tons of evidence.

Sound on.
Thank you!

I forwarded email to K.Hart who has been assigned the investigating officer. agg

Activity Card

09/09/21 10:59 KH: I called and spoke with _____ the receptionist, stated Dr. _____ is out of the office on a family emergency until Tuesday. He has not completed a vet report on the 13 horses at 1400 W HWY 246. She did state that the horses have all been under his care for at least a year.

I also called _____ and spoke with her regarding sending over photos/screenshots/texts regarding the R/O refusing to follow medical directives on the horses. I provided her with my phone number and email.

I also spoke with _____, mother of _____. I also provided her with my contact information and advised her that we are actively working the case and gathering evidence regarding the treatment of the horses. KH

09/09/21 11:52 KH: I spoke with _____ and advised her of animal services thoroughly investigating the case. stated she did not work at the facility but saw the horses yesterday. KH

09/09/21 12:05 agg; Detective Flemming with SBSO called to inform me his office had been receiving calls from concerned citizens regarding horses that were being ridden while injured. I informed Flemming we were actively investigating the case. Flemming mentioned he believed there were witnesses that wanted to go to the media. I asked he direct callers to our office so we could followup. I asked Flemming to advise caller that SBCAS was investigating the case and to not apply pressure to the horseowner as I feared he might attempt to move horses if he suspected our involvement. agg

09/11/21 12:43 KH: Obtained video of the three horses of concern moving at a walk/trot in both directions except Biscuit at a walk only. Biscuit was being unsaddled from a ride when I arrived. I also provided _____ with witness statements to fill out to provide their side of the story in writing. KH

P109/09/21 18:27 KH: I arrived at 1400 W Hwy 246 and met with the owner of the trail riding business, Bob Sweeney, as well as his two main ranch hands/business managers Vanessa and Michelle. I introduced myself and explained the nature of my visit. Sweeney was excited that I was there when he was there as he was eager to get the case behind him. He explained that the parties making accusations against him were former employees that he had to let go due to conflicts of interest. Sweeney stated he started his trail riding business in Dec. 2020. He owns Santa Barbara beach rentals and contracts the horses used there with Summerland Farms, _____ and decided he wanted a trail riding business in the SY valley. I asked Sweeney how long the horses work for? He stated the horses will sometimes work 7 days a week but that it depends on his reservations. They go out on a 1 hour walk only, guided trail ride up to 3 times a day for approximately 3 hours total work. Sweeney stated the trail ride route is in the Santa Ynez river bottom and can include 2 or 4 river crossings. The route currently has four river crossings. The horses do not work above 95 degrees Fahrenheit according to Sweeney however no accommodations are made for the heat index for the day. Sweeney stated Buellton is "never humid" and therefore does not warrant operating off a heat index rating. The weight limit for riders is 250lbs and the only horse capable of carrying heavier riders is "Big Jake" a bay roan, quarter horse gelding in his mid teens. The horses all wear tie downs on the trail rides and all horses have their own tack and equipment. Each horse also has its own brushes. Sweeney stated he has an evacuation plan with _____ in Santa Ynez as an evacuation center for his horses. There are no trailers on site however Sweeney stated he lives locally and can be at the ranch in a "relatively short amount of time." Sweeney also stated he is working with the city of Buellton to move his business to a city owned property at the old Willemsen Dairy off 101. He stated he has an appointment with Scott Wolf, Buellton city manager on Thursday 9/16/21 at 1800 hours to discuss proposals. Sweeney is concerned the investigation and accusations against his business will hinder his ability to move his business to the city property. Sweeney also stated most of the horses were on "Feed leases" from their owners and that he only personally owned a few of them. Continued to Page 2.

Activity Card

****P2**** I asked to observe the horses individually; beginning with the three horses we have a complaint on.

"Biscuit" is an approx. 21 yr old palomino paint gelding approx. 15 hands that was acquired from a dude string out of state. Sweeney stated Biscuit has had tendon issues in the past. I observed and examined the horse. He had swelling in both his front legs and a crusted over fetlock sore on his right front. He also had small hock sores- approx the size of a quarter on each of his hocks. He also had a few nicks and scrapes on his sides and withers in areas consistent with where a saddle would sit. Biscuit was shod all the way around with pads on his fronts. I placed my hand in his mouth and held his tongue so that I could observe his teeth and did not see any hooks or sores in his mouth. Sweeney stated Biscuit is currently being treated with "Butazone" on his front legs to assist with healing of prior tendon injuries. Sweeney also stated the horse is a favorite horse of children to ride due to his calm and gentle demeanor. Biscuit appeared "serviceably sound" when walking and I did not observe any obvious signs of pain or distress from the horse. He was a 5 on the Henneke body condition score.

"Gandolph" is an approx. 21 yr old fleabitten grey quarterhorse gelding approx. 15 hands with four socks and a blaze that is in the riding program on a feed lease from _____ of _____. Sweeney stated the horse is fed a complete senior feed, an omega supplement as well as Equicox and a mixture of Alfalfa, timothy and orchard hays. Gandolph had small hock sores approx. the size of a quarter on each of his hind legs. He also had a series of small, shallow scrapes on his front right leg that appear to be from an entanglement with a fence. Sweeney suspects he got cut on the stud wire that is on the corrals. He is shod all the way around with pads on his front feet. His teeth were in good shape with no hooks or sores. No weight concerns on the horse- 4/5. The horse was bright and alert and did not appear to be in any pain or have any soreness while walking.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 3

****P3****

"Fame" show name "Fortune and Fame" is an approx 21 yr old bay paint National Show Horse (arabian/saddlebred cross- NSH for short) mare approx 16 hands. Fame is currently pregnant in foal to Major Mac V of _____ in _____. She was purchased by Sweeney in December of 2020. Sweeney stated she has arthritis and a club foot on her left front. The club does not appear to be extreme but is considered to be a conformational default. She is shod in the front with pads and barefoot in the back. I was unable to detect the reported "broken knee" on the mare. Fame had hoack sores on both her hind legs that were approximately the size of a dime. Fame also had a small patch of dermatitis on her withers at the approx. location where a saddle pad would sit. Fame was an ideal body condition, and bright eyes and good teeth- no hooks or mouth sores felt or seen. Sweeney stated he does not work her "too hard". I did not notice a limp or any indications of pain when the horse walked. 5 on Henneke scale

"Charlotte" is an approx. 22 yr bay arabian mare approx 14.2 hands tall that came from _____. She was reportedly used in "Mexican rodeos" prior to her current living arrangements. Charlotte was on the heavier side of ideal. She reportedly is recovering from a fungal infection near her withers and on her rump. She is shod in the front with pads and is barefoot in the back. She appeared BAR and had good teeth- no hooks or sores. She appeared sound when walking with no indications of pain or discomfort. 5/6 on henneke

"Marissa" is an approx. 20 yr old bay NSH mare, approx 16 hands tall with socks on her hind legs and a star with strip on her face. She is shod all the way around- no pads. Her front left shoe was loose at the time of my visit. Sweeney stated that if a horse has a loose shoe on a working day, the horse's foot is duct taped and an "easy boot" is placed onto the horse's foot to add protection. Marissa had small nicks on her front legs that appeared to be from the flies. She also had dermatitis/rub marks on her sides in areas consistent with where a saddle would sit. 4 on Henneke

Continued to page 3

Activity Card

P3

"Slick" is an approx 20 yr old sorrel quarter horse gelding, approx. 14.3 hands tall. He has socks on his hind legs. Slick was retired from the mountains near Lake Tahoe as a life of a trail horse. He arrived to Sweeneys facility in June 2021. Slick had a few small white marks on his body and near his withers. These were not sores but patches of white fur that can be commonly known as "pressure sores". He appeared BAR, shod all the way around with pads on his fronts. No hooks or sores in mouth. No lameness or soundness issues observed. 5 on Henneke

"Big Jake" is an approx 15 yr old bay roan quarter horse approx 16 hands tall. He came from an outfit in Big Bear, CA. Jake appears to be a very flat footed horse with very little heel on his hoof. He is shod all the way around with bar pads on his fronts. Jake appeared BAR, no hooks or sores in his mouth, traveled sound at the walk. 4 on Henneke

"Skippy" is an approx. 17 yr old strawberry roan quarter pony gelding approx 14 hands tall. Skippy is reportedly only used for children and small adults weighing less than 130lbs. He has ringbone and arthritis and is in shod all the way around with pads on his fronts. He is on Equicox. Skippy has what appears to be "girth itch" which is a fungal infection similar to ringworm. Its is often made worse by the friction caused by tack rubbing as the fungal spores enter broken skin. It is commonly found in the "armpit" of the horse. Skippy has small hock sores approx the size of a nickle on his hind legs. He did not have any hooks or sores in his mouth and otherwise appeared BAR and traveled sound. 7 on Henneke

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P5

"Kaia" (pronounced kai-ya) is an approx 19 yr old. sorrel arabian cross mare with four stockings and a blaze approx 15.2 hands. Sweeney stated he has only owned this mare for three weeks. She is currently only being ridden by trail guides. Sweeney stated the mare came to him "severely underweight" and she came to him from the same former owner as Marissa and Charlotte. She was a former dressage horse and has arthritis in her shoulder. Her teeth appeared good with no hooks or sores. She appeared to have a slight hitch in gait while walking away from me. Possibly in her hip or stifle. She appeared to have a minor case of girth itch and had several small nicks across her body. Sweeney stated it was because she was new and low on the pecking order. She otherwise appeared BAR. 4 on Henneke

"Marshmallow" is an approx 10 yr old gray appaloosa shetland pony cross mare approx. 10 hands tall. She is only used as a pony ride pony to small children and does not go on the trails. She is also used as a "unicorn" for birthday parties. Marshmallow is obese and is shod on the front. She is otherwise BAR. No hooks or sores in mouth and traveled sound- no signs of lameness or pain. 7/8 on Henneke

"Mabel" is an approx 10 yr old dark bay molly mule pony approx 10 hands tall. She is also only used as a pony ride pony but is trained to pull a cart and Sweeney has plans to drive her in the future. She is obese. Mabel was unsure of me and would not allow me to see her teeth. She is BAR and has no signs of lameness or pain- traveled sound. 7/8 on Henneke

"Trumpet" is an unknown horse that is off site at a ranch at _____ in Santa Ynez. According to Sweeney he was presenting with soreness in his feet and had chronic abscesses. Sweeney has decided to sell him and has taken him off site to allow him to rest before being placed up for sale.

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P6

"Gaul" was recently returned to his former owner. He had an incident in February 2021 where he tripped on a rock while crossing the river and fell. He was a guide ridden horse only and was not ridden by customers according to Sweeney. Gaul reportedly came in with lameness and soreness issues. Sweeney stated he put over \$2000.00 of vet care into the horse and got him feeling so good that he was unsuitable to be used as a beginner safe trail horse.

Sweeney also stated that he has rotated nine horses out of his program since starting in Dec. 2020 due to them not being safe and reliable horses for his business. He welcomes anyone that has questions about the care of his horses to come by but to make an appointment first, though he stated animal services was the exception. Sweeney self proclaimed himself as a "horse lameness expert" stating that he knows more about the movement and anatomy of a horses leg better than most veterinarians. He seemed eager to wrap up and close the case. I advised him that the case was on going and that we needed to thoroughly investigate the claims of neglect. He understood. Sweeney was eager to get a positive outcome on the case to provide to the city of Buellton so that he could move his business to the new site at the old dairy. He stated his records with _____ will back up his usage of his horses and that he never goes against the directives of his veterinary team.

KH

Activity Card

09/12/21 09:53 agg: I received the following email from _____ :

***Thank you for the confirmation.

I hope you also got the new info we received from a current employee, _____ They are receiving prescription drugs (with no prescription) from a non-veterinarian. They are giving all the horses Ace daily (sedative) plus Bute (for pain) plus Equioxx (for pain), plus antibiotics. The two NSaids are NEVER supposed to be given together. And I wonder how tourists would feel to know they are riding not only lame and drugged horses-but sedated horses, as well.

Is there any way to get these horses drug tested? The _____ vets who diagnosed the injuries will have no knowledge of all the illegal drugs in these horses. Another horse today appears to be foundering.

My heart is breaking for Biscuit.

I replied to _____ email and asked her to provide _____ my email or the shelter's phone number so that _____ could contact us directly.agg

09/13/21 10:17 KH: On 9/11/2021 at approx. 1300 hours I MC in person with former employees; _____ and _____ I provided _____ and _____ with witness statement forms and provided them with Sup. Gonzales email for return. I also advised that they could bring the statements to either the SB or SM shelters. KH

09/13/21 12:33 KH: Additional photos and videos uploaded to the F drive. KH

09/13/21 13:10 KH: Emailed _____ requesting vet records on all horses at 1400 W Hwy 246 that are either owned or managed by Sweeney. I supplied Sup. Gonzales email to them as I will be out of office. KH

09/16/21 15:13 TV: I arrived at _____ and met with _____ stated that he sent the vet records for the horses to ACO Hart. I provided my email and he forwarded the information. _____ also stated that Bob Sweeney authorized the release of the vet records so it was not a problem to release the information. Dr. _____ was not at the facility when I was there. TV

09/13/21 10:48 agg: I remotely checked my office voicemail and I had received a voicemail from _____ explained she wanted to file a complaint regarding horses at SY Valley Horse Ride. According to _____ all or the horses were starving, cut up and sick. She had requested all the animals be confiscated and stated there community members that would transport and house them. I contact investigating officer, ACO Hart. Hart informed me she had been in recent contact with _____ regarding the horses. agg

P1A

09/13/21 10:24 KH: I received medical history reports for Biscuit and Gandolph from Dr. _____ of _____

The statement for Biscuit states that (9/08/21 visit) the horse "has shown significant improvement" since the Dr.'s last visit. Dr. _____ has diagnosed the horse with chronic suspensory desmitis with the right front being worse than the left. He states the horse is being used in a "very limited capacity; 1-2 short rides a week with a light rider and only at a walk. Dr. _____ recommends continuing with the light exercise and wrapping the horse with ice boots and wraps after exercise. He also states for the R/O to use Equicoxx as needed. Dr. _____ has also prescribed Butacort and okayed an order for Acepromazine injectable.

Notes from a visit on 5/28/21 state:

"legs are improving. Moving better less painful to digital pressure. May be possible to use in a limited capacity"

Notes from a visit on 3/23/21:

"Swollen mid cannon to fetlocks both front feet. Feels like extensive scar tissue. Rec: Bute as needed. Try Butacort wraps"

I discussed the case with Sup. Gonzales. Due to the vet report stating the horse has significantly improved since his last visit with the horse in May 2021, there is insufficient evidence to pursue the allegations of abuse on Biscuit.

Gandolph's report on page 1B

Activity Card

P1B

09/13/21 11:01 KH: Medical history report for Gandolph from Dr.

of.

Recent visit 9/8/21 states:

- Limited flexion in both front fetlocks but doesn't seem to effect mobility
- exostosis LF medial splint- old- no active
- a little thin- currently being fed low starch senior- may want to add Platinum healthy weight
- dental work may help
- use Equicoxx as needed

9/4/21:

Flunixin Paste (NSAID) and Hydroxyzine (antihistamine) prescribed by Dr.

09/20/21 08:10 agg: I received an email from regarding a video captured of "Fame" taken on 9/19/21 after she had been ridden. stated Sweeney would be moving the horses. I responded to her email and requested she complete a statement and provide the video. replied with the following message:

**Ok will do.

We are meeting with the tomorrow to learn all the info on the vet records.

All the horses are now at in Santa Ynez

- SY ***

agg

09/21/21 13:21 agg: I received the following email from Sweeney on 9/21/21:

**Thank you for the update and sorry I missed your call on Sunday. I've forwarded your email to Dr. asking him to contact you as soon as he is able so we can get this put to rest.

I also wanted to let you know that we moved out of our facility at 1400 West Hwy 246 in Buellton on Saturday and Sunday to facilities at in Santa Ynez. We moved because our staff was being harassed with screaming visitors and threats that made them feel unsafe, uncomfortable and often ended in tears. The landowner also reported several threats to her family and their personal boarding business as well. Other disturbing things also happened. For example, during one of our final guest rides before we moved, a group of people on horseback (all former employees, including the woman who created the petition), met our staff and guests on the trail, while one hid in the bushes quietly filming our ride, for their "evidence" pile, I can only assume. Also, we learned yesterday that someone followed us from the Buellton facility to our new Santa Ynez facility to track where we moved, then contacted a staff member of a neighboring facility to encourage him to join their cause, sign the petition, etc... He blatantly refused. It has become ridiculous and we are all frankly exhausted. So we are taking a sabbatical at this new location until we can move to, hopefully mid-October. I wanted you to know where we moved, and why. I've also let Officer Hart, Dr. and Scott Wolfe (Buellton City Manager) know as well.

09/24/21 10:16 agg: I emailed Senior Deputy District Attorney, Fabiana Fede back to review case and receive guidance. agg

I asked for a call

09/24/21 10:53 agg: Fede called me. I described case and she agreed to informally review. Fede stated her schedule was busy, but would attempt to review by end of next week. agg

Activity Card

09/28/21 12:52 agg Spoke to Dr. (Veterinarian) with I asked Dr. what his overall observations were of Bob Sweeney's horse's- Specifically Biscuit, Gandolf and Fame. believed Sweeney had taken very good care of Biscuits legs as observed significant improvement in the affected areas. I asked whether Biscuit was okay to participate in trail rides. believed a 75 minute loop at a walking pace with a light rider was okay. I asked what he considered to be a "light rider." He defined a "light rider" as a person who weighed 150lb or less. stated limited exercise was good as it stretched joints, but it depended on whether the animal was showing improvment with the exercise. I asked if Biscuit was being used on trail rides, more than recommended, would have concerns. stated Biscuit had shown so much improvement that it would be hard to argue the rides were causing him harm. If the horse's health had declined, would have been concerned. According to , Sweeney's horse were overall in very good conditions. One horse, Gandolf, was on the thin side, but didn't have any welfare concerns. stated that most of Sweeney's horse were fat and needed to diet. I asked about "Fame" the preganant mare. stated he had observed her. He believed that soon she would be able to take a rider. When he observed her she had an old injury RH that was enlarged but didn't cause problems. He observed an LF clubfoot and some ringbone- Fame had a shortstrided LF when trotted to the left. Her body condition was good. I asked if he reviewed Veterinary notes on horses from past vet's (from his clinic). stated he didn't always review the notes. I asked if Fame should be ridden as another Veterinarian had diagnosed her with a 3/5 LF lameness in June 2021. stated he hadn't read Dr. Veterinary notes. I explained the had written forced exercise was not reasonable and that turn out and retirement was recommended. stated he would review and follow up with me. Additionally, agreed to provide me with a report- diagnosis/prognosis/recommendations for Biscuit, Gandolf and Fame, as well as an overall report regarding his observations of the remaining horses.

10/03/21 09:09 agg: left voicemail for Dr. agg

10/03/21 09:40 agg: On SYVhorsebackrides (Instagram page) I observed a video and photos of a horse that resembled Fame being used on a trail ride. The photos and video were posted on August 24, 2021. According to the Veterinarian recommendations- Fame should have been retired and not riding. Attached to case file. agg

10/03/21 10:36 agg: emailed Fabiana Fede (DDA) documents to review regarding case. agg

10/05/21 11:58 KH: ACO Sup. Gonzales and I met with Sweeney at Santa Ynez, CA to observe the horses at their new facility. Gandolph, Biscuit, Jake, Slick, Mashmallow and Mabel all had box stalls (approx. 12x12 feet) with attached outdoor runs (Approx. 50'x12') Mabel and Marshmallow shared a pen. The box stalls had wood shavings with automatic bowl water dishes. The pens were clean and free of debris or excessive manure.

Fame, Skippy, Kaia, Charlotte and Marrissa were all out in a large paddock with a large shelter and automatic water bowl dish, together.

ACO Gonzales and I both observed Gandolph, Biscuit and Fame outside of their pens.

Gandolph had small hock sores on both hocks- approx the size of a quarter. He had been treated with "swat" a fly repellent product, prior to our arrival. Sweeney stated , former owner of Gandolph, sold the horse to him on Sept. 12, 2021. Sweeney stated he would send the bill of sale to ACO Gonzales.

Biscuit's legs have looked to improved since my last visit- they no longer appear to be tree trunks and have some slight definition to them. No noticeable sores on Biscuit.

Fame- Dr. of : reviewed radiographs of Fame's legs in June of 2021. According to Sweeney, Dr. cleared the horse to go back to work; however the conversation was over the phone and no written document was provided by the vet. ACO Gonzales asked for a written report from Dr. of his June Findings to be sent to our office.

10/05/21 14:44 agg

10/05/21 16:41 agg: I emailed DDA Fabiana Fedes and informed her of my decision to close the investigation based off of the Veterinarian's statement and history reports. agg

Activity Card

On 10/4/21 I received an email from Dr. _____ from _____ Dr. _____ stated the following:

"On September 10, 2021 I was called to examine all 12 horses present at the SYV Horseback rides location in Buellton CA. The 12 I examined included the 3 of concern- Biscuit, Gandolf, and Fame and Fortune. I did not see any signs of abuse or neglect on any of the horses present. The only mildly thin horse was Gandolf and the personnel had a good nutritional plan in place for him. Some of the horses are older horses with normal "wear and tear" ailments but again, the personnel seem to have their management well in hand. If you have further questions or need more specifics please feel free to contact me."

I replied and inquired about his prognosis for "Fame and Fortune" following his review of Dr. _____ examination report from 6/16/21. At the time, Dr. _____ had recommended Fame be retired and that forced exercise wasn't reasonable. Dr. _____ had his office email me an updated history report for "Fame and Fortune." The report was dated on 9/10/21 and stated the following:

"- LF club foot and appears to have some ringbone - Short strided LF when trotted to the left - old injury RH - enlarged but doesn't cause problems - good body condition - Use equioxx as needed Examined in June by Dr. _____ and was much lammer at that time. Dr. _____ has been performing therapeutic farrier work and her lameness has improved significantly. I think she can be used for riding until she is 6-7 months pregnant. (_____, D.V.M."

All of Sweeney's horses were under Veterinary care, the veterinarian, Dr. _____ did not have any welfare related concerns. Dr. _____ did not see any signs of abuse or neglect. Based off his observations, he believed Sweeney's personnel were managing the ailments of normal "wear and tear" associated with older horses.

I closed the investigation as I found the claims to be unfounded.

10/07/21 08:46 agg: called back Investigator Matt Harvill with Santa Barbara County D.A. office after receiving a voicemail he had left. Harvill stated D.A Joyce Dudley had reached out to him after receiving an email from Joan Hartman regarding SYV HorseBack Rides and abused horses there. I informed Harvill that we had recently closed the investigation as all the horses were under Veterinary Care and that the Veterinarian who had recently saw them did not suspect abuse or neglect as many of the horse's conditions had significantly improved. agg

--

Bixby, Julia

Subject:

FW: Biscuit on Rocks. With his condition this is wrong

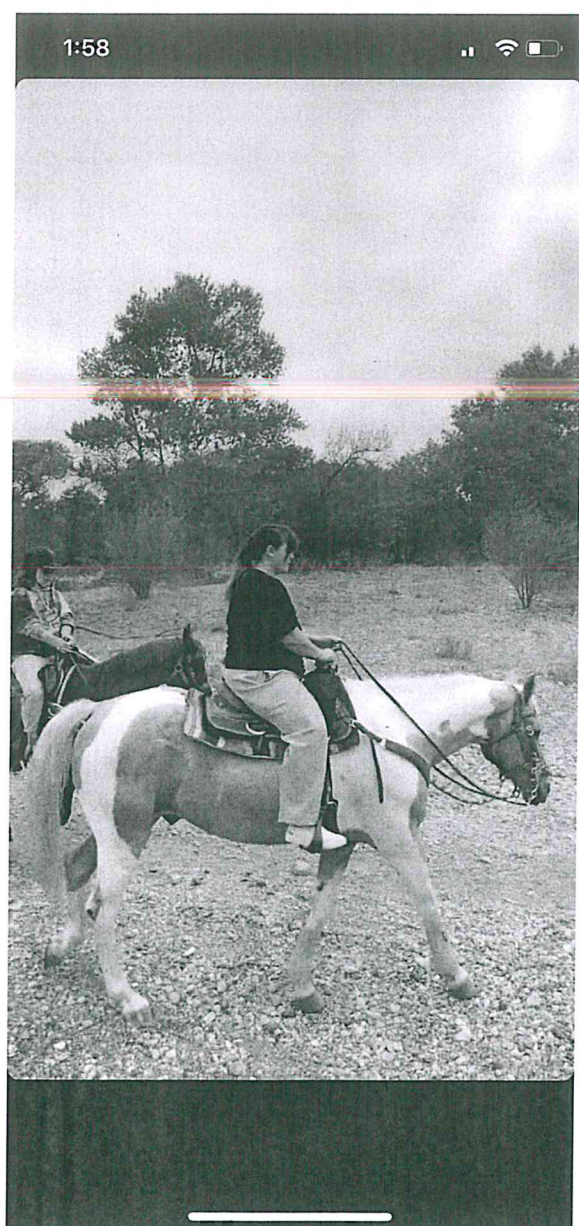
From:

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:12 AM

To: Koens, Christopher <Christopher.Koens@sbcphd.org>

Subject: Biscuit on Rocks. With his condition this is wrong

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Bixby, Julia

Subject: FW: Bisquit - they post him on the ground likes it's nothing

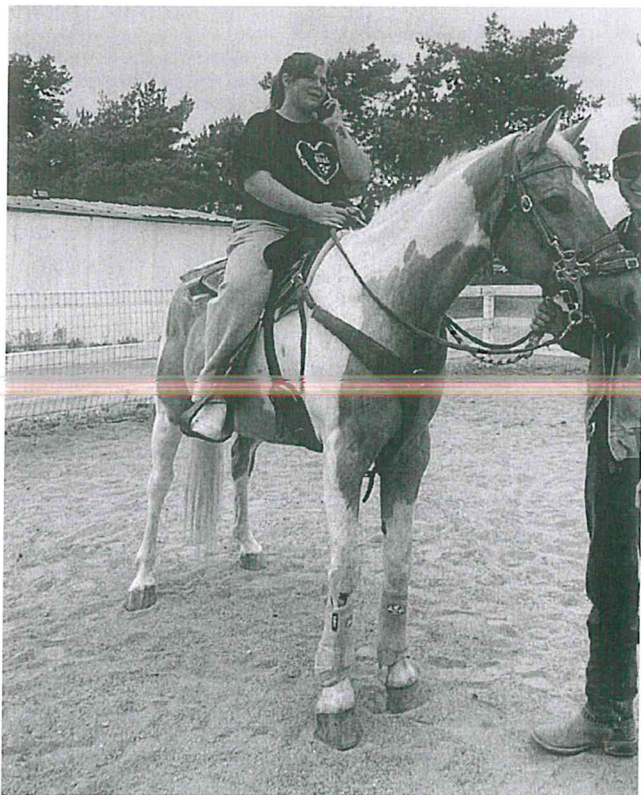
From:

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:02 AM

To: Koens, Christopher <Christopher.Koens@sbcphd.org>

Subject: Bisquit - they post him on the ground likes it's nothing

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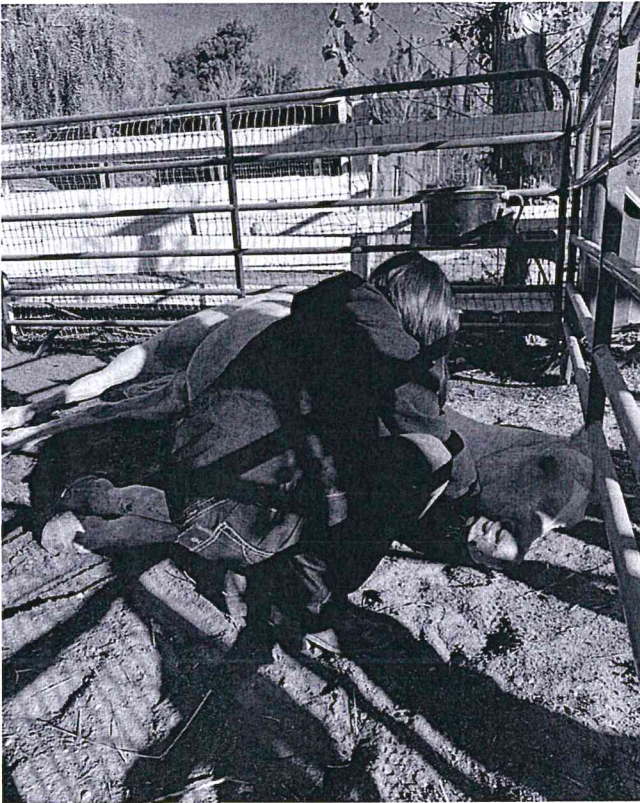
9:18

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#santabarbara #santaynezvalley #solvang
#santaynez #winecountry
#santaynezwinecountry #horses #horselover
#horsesofinstagram #horsebackriding
#horsegirl #syvhorserides #ucsb #goleta #805
#islavista #goletabeach #goldenhour
#goodvibes #summer #summervibes #travel



Bixby, Julia

Subject: FW: Bisquit on the rocks which is clearly mistreatment

From:

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:02 AM

To: Koens, Christopher <Christopher.Koens@sbcphd.org>

Subject: Bisquit on the rocks which is clearly mistreatment

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10:31



facebook.com



Bixby, Julia

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 7:26 AM
To: Koens, Christopher
Subject: Fwd: Biscuit and additional Vet Reports

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The owners are trying to get the reports. We wanted you to know.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: /
Date: Wed, Sep 15, 2021 at 10:16 AM
Subject: Biscuit and additional Vet Reports
To:
CC: , Bob Sweeney

My name is [redacted] and I called an emergency vet for Bob Sweeney's horse that is on our property after Bob refused to treat his horse. We watched for a week as the SYV Horse back rides used the horse Biscuit and then would leave for the night, leaving this horse in pain. The horse would frequently lay down and shift it's weight off its very swollen knees. We asked the owner to come and administer care for the horse who was in a tremendous amount of pain but he did not come. We used the boarding contract that he signed that the land owners can get emergency vet care if the horse owner does not. We met with Dr. [redacted] from [redacted] in the middle of the night who treated Biscuit. Dr. [redacted] informed us that Biscuit needed to be off for at least a month from rides and needed to be re-evaluated. She gave Biscuit pain medication and also provided us with pain medication to give the horse. We asked Dr. [redacted] to send the bill to us as we already told the horse owner we would pay for the vet bill as he showed no regard for caring properly for the horse. We wanted to make sure Biscuit received the treatment he needed. The very next day, animal control came out to the property. I met with the officer and the manager of the trail riding business, She told the animal control officer that clearly Biscuit was not in pain and the pain medication administered by the vet was too strong. This statement by her, as the horse was still shifting his weight, made me believe she was not going to continue proper treatment for the horse and disregard Dr. [redacted] examination. Shortly after that, the horse was removed from property. Within a month the horse was brought back to property and put to work again without properly clearing him with Dr. [redacted] as Bob Sweeney agreed to do. The horse is still declining in health and constantly shows signs of pain.

I have asked several times for the vet report for Dr. [redacted] that I was told we would receive as the land owners and the people who called. We have attempted several times to get the horses cared for properly but the owner keeps saying that [redacted] vet is clearing these horses for trail riding. This examination was in May and I am requesting that report as the land owner and the signed agreement from Bob Sweeney on his boarding contract.

Additionally, I was an owner of this same trail riding business with Bob Sweeney before we disagreed with horse care and employee treatment and left the business. We officially left the business in March which I can provide paperwork. Before leaving the business though I was an owner when several of the horses were seen by [redacted] Vet, including the horse Gaul. I am also requesting vet records from all horses seen for Bob Sweeney for the trail riding business from March 2020 and before as an owner of the business. All documentation needs to be provided to us as

owners as laid out in the partnership agreement for the LLC. In the agreement it says Bob Sweeney had control of all horse care. But it also says all paperwork will be provided to owners when requested. Please provide all prior records from March 2020 as well.

Bob Sweeney and have been CC'd to this email.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

--

Bixby, Julia

Subject:

FW: Jack

From:

Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 10:01 AM

To: Koens, Christopher <Christopher.Koens@sbcphd.org>

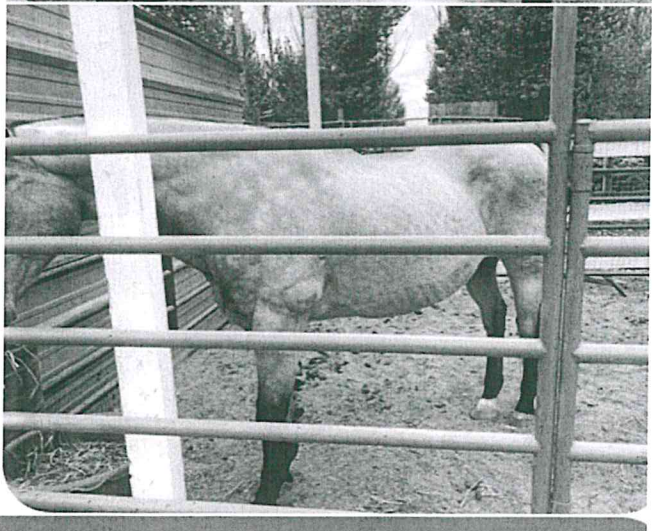
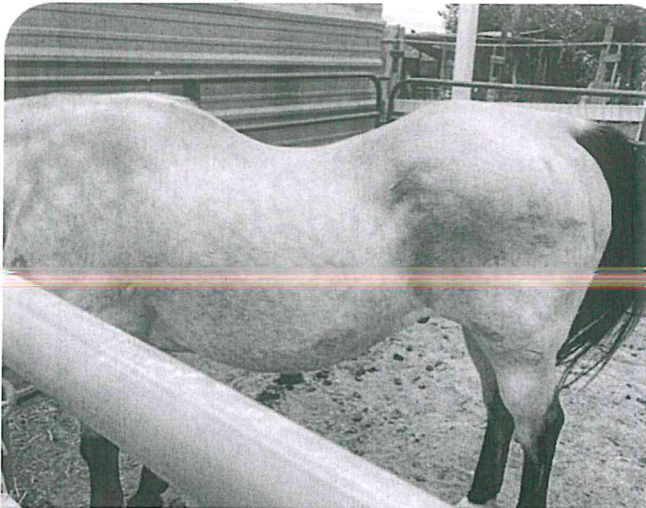
Subject: Jack

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Before at Bobs

Then a pic of a girl on him. I think they removed all of him in the river bed. I'm trying to find more.

Last pic is him today



8:07

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December 9 2020



