

**SAMPLE PETITION LETTER FOR ANTELOPE VALLEY FAIR
RE: SAY NO TO EXOTIC ANIMAL EXHIBITIONS**

Antelope Valley Fair and Events Center
ATTN: Dan Jacobs, General Manager
(661) 948-6060 x 101
jacobs@avfair.com

Dear Mr. Jacobs,

As a concerned citizen, I urge the Antelope Valley Fair to enact a policy against hosting big cat and exotic animal displays to protect public safety and animal welfare. Exhibition of tigers, an endangered species, and other exotic animals such as servals, lynx and wallabies is irresponsible, inappropriate and an urgent matter of public safety and animal welfare.

Big cats, such as tigers, and other exotic animals should be living in the wild, not forced to travel from venue to venue, confined in small cages, and denied all that is natural to them. Exhibition animals can't exercise, sleep or eat when they choose, and can't escape the overwhelming noise and chaos of the circus, fair or festival where they are exhibited.

Additionally, allowing exhibition of tigers, exotic cats, wallabies and other exotic animals puts the public at unnecessary risk of animal attacks and exposure to disease. Since 1990, there have been 377 reported cases of big cat attacks in the U.S. alone, including reported cases through exhibitions such as those being provided by A Walk on the Wild Side. These animals are also vectors of many parasites, bacterial infections and diseases that can be passed on to humans (zoonosis).

The "pay to play" photo opportunities with an infant serval offered through your current exhibitor, A Walk on the Wildside are inherently cruel, causing undue stress from excessive handling and exposure to loud noises and constant stimulation. And the display of a tiger pacing in a small enclosure is simply heartbreaking.

In their natural habitats, big cats roam vast distances, hunt, seek out mates, raise families, swim in rivers and bask in the sun. As props for entertainment, they can do little more than pace a couple of steps before encountering the bars of their tiny cages.

I urge the Antelope Valley Fair facilitators to say no to animal abuse and undue risk for public safety. Hauling big cats and exotic animals around the country, placing them in tiny cages, exposing them to ongoing stress and noise, and using them for photo ops in the name of entertainment is cruel and irresponsible and the Antelope Valley Fair should not condone such activities.

Sincerely,

FIRST AND LAST NAME