

SUPPORTING DEPOSITION
SEC. - 100.20 CPL

State of New York
Town of Essex

County of Essex
Essex County Sheriff's Office

My name is Diane Dodd and I am a veterinarian with current licenses to practice in New York, Vermont and Alaska. I have been a practicing veterinarian since 1983. I practiced for almost 28 years in Essex County New York and I am familiar with Shelly Wing and her mistreatment of horses. This is my second deposition as the neglect has been on going and long term.

I became aware of this case as I was returning home from a relief veterinary position in Alaska. I visited Crane Mountain on the day of my return and saw an approximately 7-year-old mare with a young foal at her side. The mare was very thin, I would say BCS 1+ or 2- on the Henneke score. The foal was in a similar state. That score means that they look like skeletons' with skin and hair coats. The mare was easy to catch in the field and lead but was very slow moving and depressed in her attitude.

I found out then that they had seized 18 horses on Wednesday the 18th of September but were unable to catch the last 13. I offered to help, as I knew they would need to tranquilize animals to lead and load into horse trailers for removal from the premises. I am also a long time horse owner and know how to handle horses safely.

I brought my horse trailer with me and as I drove down the driveway with the "caravan" of other volunteers, Essex County Sheriff's deputies and Crane Mountain Horse Rescue personnel, Shelly Wing was trying to drive out of the driveway. She called me a witch and inferred I didn't know how to drive the truck and trailer, as I could not move past her. I was able to get around her and was surprised at how much further the property had deteriorated since the last time I was there.

The pastures were grazed to nothing, the fence was a single wire electric which was currently containing them but I know they have gotten out in the past. This in itself is a hazard to human and horse. The pastures were strewn with hay strings, hay netting and metal fence fragments. Many times I tripped on a loop of hay sting anchored in the soil at both ends. The barn was not able to contain the band of horses and we had to fortify the ends after removing the horses that were in the second pasture with gate panel pen. After we removed the horses from the second pasture we disassembled the pen to fortify the barn. We had to construct a white electric tape fence with a combination of step in and pound in posts. We then were able to funnel them into the barn. We caught the horses individually and took them to waiting trailers. The foals had to be lead with a "butt rope" to pull them forward from behind as they were not trained to lead. All the difficult babies needed to be tranquilized to move them. The 5-year-old stallion and the boss mare were herded into a fortified stall after an oral tranquilizer was given. They could then be roped and tranquilized intra-muscularly and intr-venously to make it safe to handle them. The horses were all very emaciated from chronic malnutrition. There had been 2 new round bales put in recently and they had been eaten up quickly.

It is my opinion that Shelly Wing is a "animal hoarder" and does not have the ability, financially or physically, to feed or house her animals in a life sustaining and healthy manor. They suffer from chronic lack of food and water and are inadequately housed and cared for. I know that in her mind she thinks she is doing a good job and that the horses are fine. There were at lease two skeletons in evidence in the barn. One still had the spinal cord in a pliable fashion indication recent death. There were 4 stallions running loose with mares of breeding age most of which had foals with them from previous or current year and are most likely pregnant now. Her herd size continues to grow has she has no way to keep the stallions and the mares apart.

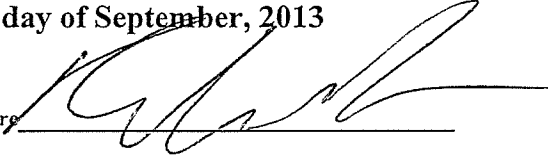
These animals were in eminent danger of not living through the winter. Only three animals were anywhere near normal body weight but I could not score any of these horses a Henneke BCS of 4. I could easily discern ribs most of the way down the thorax on all three of the best conditioned animals. My only explanation for why some of the animals were not emaciated is that she had a panel-gated pen that these three animals were preferentially fed in. The vast majority of the animals scored 2 and 3, which is emaciated. Under section 373 of Agricultural and markets Law all these animals should legally be seized.

They are now at the Essex County Fairgrounds in individual box stalls. They are as yet not satiated for water! (5 days later) They will become fractious, and a danger to the caregivers if they are not relinquished and fostered to others until they receive a new home. They should all recover now, without further mortality, with adequate food and water.

Diane Dodd D.V. M.

Notice: False statements made herein are punishable as a class A misdemeanor pursuant to Section 210.45 of the Penal Law.

Sworn to before me this
23rd day of September, 2013

Signature 

Title Deputy Sheriff

Signatures: Diane Dodd DVM

Deponent _____

Witness _____

Person Taking Deposition _____ 011 _____

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