COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Bureau of Charitable Organizations,  

v.  

Docket No. 001-98-2006  

Chimp Haven, Inc.  

Respondent  

File No. 05-98-11265

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Charitable Organizations ("Bureau"), and Chimp Haven, Inc. ("Respondent") stipulate as follows in settlement of the above-captioned case.

JURISDICTION

1. This matter is before the Secretary of the Commonwealth ("Secretary") pursuant to the Solicitation of Funds for Charitable Purposes Act, Act of December 19, 1990, P.L. 1200, No. 202, as amended ("Act"), 10 P.S. §§162.1-162.24.

2. At all relevant and material times, Respondent did not hold a registration to solicit charitable contributions within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

STIPULATED FACTS

3. Respondent admits that the following allegations are true:

   a. Respondent's last known business address is 13600 Chimpanzee Place, Keithville, LA 71047.

   b. After receiving information that Respondent was soliciting contributions from Pennsylvania residents without being properly registered, the Bureau sent a letter to Respondent on November 30, 2003 informing Respondent of
its registration obligations under the Act and providing Respondent with an application packet to register as a charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to which Respondent failed to respond.

c. On January 8, 2004, the Secretary of the Commonwealth issued a Cease and Desist Order against Respondent for failing to register and/or provide the Bureau with documentation proving exemption or exclusion.

d. On February 12, 2004, the Bureau received partial registration materials from Respondent.

e. On February 24, 2004, the Bureau mailed a letter requesting further information to complete the registration process; Respondent never responded to the Bureau's letter.

f. On April 6, 2004, the Bureau mailed a letter to Respondent, reminding it of its obligations to complete the registration process; Respondent never responded to the Bureau’s letter.

g. On November 18, 2005, the Bureau received evidence that Respondent violated the Cease & Desist Order.

h. On December 5, 2005, an investigative subpoena was issued against Respondent.

i. By letter dated December 19, 2005, Respondent, in response to the Bureau’s Investigative Subpoena stated that since 1998, (a period during which Respondent was not registered), Respondent solicited 244 Pennsylvania individuals and businesses and received $7,644 in contributions from Pennsylvania residents and, businesses.
j. On December 19, 2005, Respondent submitted all materials required to perfect its registration.

AGREED VIOLATIONS

4. Respondent agrees that by engaging in the foregoing activities it violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.15(a)(1), by and through § 162.5, by soliciting charitable contributions in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania without first being registered with the Bureau.

PROPOSED ORDER

5. The participants, intending to be legally bound, consent to issuance of the following Order in settlement of this matter:

   a. Respondent violated the Act at 10 P.S. § 162.15(a)(1), by and through § 162.5.

   ADMINISTRATIVE FINE

   b. An ADMINISTRATIVE FINE of Two thousand dollars ($2,000) is levied upon Respondent. Respondent shall tender the full sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000), with this executed Consent Agreement which shall be paid by certified check, cashier's check, attorney's check, or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania."

CASED SETTLED AND DISCONTINUED

6. This case shall be deemed settled and discontinued upon the Secretary issuing an Order adopting this Consent Agreement and the Respondent's successful completion of any ordered discipline.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NOTICE AND WAIVER OF HEARING

7. Respondent waives the filing of an Order to Show Cause in this matter. Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives the right to an administrative hearing in this matter, and to the following rights related to that hearing: to be represented by counsel at the hearing; to present witnesses and testimony in defense or in mitigation of any sanction that may be imposed for a violation; to cross-examine witnesses and to challenge evidence presented by the Bureau; to present legal arguments by means of a brief; and to take an appeal from any final adverse decision.

AGREEMENT NOT BINDING ON OTHER PARTIES

8. This Consent Agreement is between the Bureau and Respondent only. It does not bind any other administrative entity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, including any other bureau within the Department of State. Except as otherwise noted, this Agreement is to have no legal effect if (a) the Office of General Counsel expresses an objection to the Agreement’s form or legality and/or (b) unless and until the Secretary issues the stipulated Order.

EFFECT OF SECRETARY’S REJECTION

9. Should the Secretary not approve this Consent Agreement, presentation to and consideration of this Consent Agreement and other documents and matters by the Secretary shall not prejudice the Secretary from further participation in the adjudication of this matter. This paragraph is binding on the participants even if the Secretary does not approve this Consent Agreement.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT

10. This Agreement contains the whole agreement between the parties; provided, however, that the captions printed in the various provisions of this agreement are for ease of reading only and are not to be interpreted as forming any part of this agreement. There are no other terms,
obligations, covenants, representations, statements or conditions, or otherwise, of any kind whatsoever, concerning this Agreement.

AGREEMENT DOES NOT PREVENT REFERRAL TO OTHER AGENCIES

11. The parties acknowledge that other federal, state, and/or local agencies may have jurisdiction over the activities of, or representations made by, Respondent and its officers, directors, agents, employees or independent contractors. Nothing in this Consent Agreement or the Order based upon this Consent Agreement shall preclude representatives of the Bureau from referring any information or data produced as a result of this matter to any federal, state, or local agency or governmental unit having jurisdiction over the activities of Respondent or any officer, director, agent, employee or independent contractor of the Respondent.

VERIFICATION OF FACTS AND STATEMENTS

12. Respondent verifies that the facts and statements set forth in this Agreement are true and correct to the best of Respondent's knowledge, information and belief. Respondent understands that statements in this Agreement are made subject to the criminal penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

CHIMP HAVEN, INC.

Tracy L. McCurdy, Esquire
Prosecuting Attorney
Department of State

By: Linda Brent
Title: President & Director
Respondent

DATED: 1-27-06

DATED:
IN THE MATTER OF
CHIMP HAVEN, INC.
FILE NO.: 05-98-11265

ORDER

AND NOW, to wit, on this 31st day of January 2006, the terms of paragraph 5 of the foregoing Consent Agreement are hereby adopted and incorporated as the Order of the Secretary of the Commonwealth in resolution of this matter. This Order shall take effect immediately.

BY ORDER

[Signature]
Pedro A. Cortés
Secretary of the Commonwealth