

## Oklahoma's G.W. Exotic Animal Park Files Massive Countersuit Against Big Cat Rescue of Tampa, FL

By Bobbi Corona

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### *Legal Team Plans To Ask Jury For Millions in Damages At The Hands of Big Cat Rescue's CEO*

In what is becoming known as the David vs. Goliath of the exotic animal industry, Joe Schreibvogel, Director of the G.W. Exotic Animal Park in Wynnewood, Oklahoma instructed the parks' Tampa law firm to file a multimillion dollar countersuit against Big Cat Rescue of Tampa and CEO Carole Baskin for slander, defamation of character, and torturous interference of business contracts. Schreibvogel stated his law firm will show evidence to a jury and ask for more than 15 million dollars in damages to his and the park's reputation, including loss of revenue due to Mrs. Baskin and her staff maliciously spreading lies, slandering his and the park's name, defamation, and acrimonious harassment of his clients and supporters in order to cause financial ruin.

In January 2011, Big Cat Rescue filed a trademark infringement lawsuit against the G.W. Exotic Animal Foundation and Mr. Schreibvogel after he came up with the name Big Cat Rescue Entertainment to combine its magic show with its animal exhibit, stating, "We're giving entertainment along with education about exotic animals." The only problem with their lawsuit is we did not use the logo they registered," said Schreibvogel. Big Cat Rescue's trademark uses a tiger jumping over the words Big Cat Rescue. Official documents at <http://tess2.uspto.gov> state "No claim is made to the exclusive right to use big cat rescue apart from the mark as shown" with the mark described as "The mark is comprised of the word mark "BIG CAT RESCUE" in combination with a stylized design of a tiger." Big Cat Rescue Entertainment does not use a tiger or any animal jumping over its logo.

Deciding it was time to end years of harassment, and millions of dollars in lost revenue, at the hands of the financial and oppressive Goliath, the G.W. Exotic Animal Park has filed a counterclaim against Big Cat Rescue of Tampa in hopes of putting an end to Ms. Baskin's tyrannical acts by presenting a jury with documentation proving years of ruthless attacks and torturous interference with the park's business contracts. Schreibvogel maintains that Mrs. Baskin and her staff have caused irreparable damage to himself and the G.W. Exotic Animal Foundation, in addition to the more than 70 other facilities and animal owners Ms. Baskin continues to attack daily on her website, in social media, and every other outlet that will allow it. Mr. Schreibvogel is the first to finally stand up to the financial giant and fight back.

Mr. Schreibvogel maintains he had never heard of Big Cat Rescue or CEO Carole Baskin until Ms. Baskin attacked Mr. Schreibvogel in an Oklahoma City newspaper in 2007. Since that time, Ms. Baskin has unleashed a vicious attack on the man, the park, and his animals by harassing his business clients with letters, phone calls, and threats in order to have his fundraising events cancelled.

Mrs. Baskin stated in her "20-year-plan" that her goal is to have total control of all exotic cats in the next few years.

Category	Exotic Animals, Non-profit
Tags	Joe Exotic, big cat rescue, carole baskin, tigers
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