

# Top 20\* List of Illegal Actions by Animal and Eco-Terrorists 1996-2006

## IN ORDER OF SEVERITY

### **1. San Diego Arson**

In August 2003, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF) claimed responsibility for setting fire to a new housing development near San Diego – to protest sprawl and development. The planned La Jolla Crossroads complex contemplated 1,500 housing units, including low-income and market-rate rental apartments, as well as condominiums. A banner reading "If you build it, we will burn it, the ELFs are mad," was found at the crime scene, and an e-mail sent to The San Diego Union-Tribune the day of the arson said the banner "is a legitimate claim of responsibility by the Earth Liberation Front." Damage was assessed at more than \$50 million.

### **2. Bombing at Chiron Corporation**

In August 2003, two incendiary devices exploded at Chiron Corporation in Northern California. The explosions occurred in the early morning hours causing property damage, but no injuries to people. Chiron Corp. had been a target of escalating harassment and actions due to its alleged connection to Huntington Life Sciences (HLS). There is a \$50,000 reward offered for information leading to the arrest of Daniel Andreas San Diego, who authorities believe was involved in setting these bombs as well as the bombing of Shaklee Corp, which was also targeted for its connection to HLS.

### **3. Bombing at Shaklee Corporation**

In September 2003, an incendiary device exploded at Shaklee Corporation in Northern California. Shaklee is a subsidiary of the giant Japanese conglomerate Yamanouchi Holdings Group, which has been a major target of animal activist groups due to its alleged connection to HLS. The bomb was constructed with nails, to create shrapnel, and other readily available materials. No one was injured, and there is a \$50,000 reward offered for information leading to the arrest of Daniel Andreas San Diego, who authorities believe to be involved in setting this bomb as well as the bombings at Chiron Corp., which was also targeted for its connection to HLS.

### **4. Razor Blade Mailing**

In October 1999, an animal extremist group calling itself "the justice department" released a communiqué warning that over 80 packages containing razor blades had been mailed to American researchers studying non-human primates. Seven such envelopes were received by research facilities in various parts of the country.

### **5. Break-in at University of Iowa**

In November 2004 the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed responsibility for breaking into and damaging two science buildings at the University of Iowa. The intruders destroyed research, vandalized equipment and stole 400 lab animals. Both buildings were closed for the rest of the semester, and classes relocated out of safety considerations since chemicals were spilled during the break-in and Hazmat teams were required to close the buildings to the public. Damage was assessed at \$400,000.

### **6. Vail Ski Resort Arson**

In October 1998, ELF claimed responsibility for an arson fire that caused massive destruction at Vail Ski Resort in October of 1998. The fire destroyed a restaurant, picnic facility, utility building and four ski lifts. An ELF communiqué said the fire was set to protest the proposed expansion of the resort and the declining habitat of lynx. Damage was assessed at \$12 million.

### **7. Break-in, Theft and Destruction at University of Minnesota**

In April 1999, during World Week for Animals in Labs, ALF claimed responsibility for breaking into the University of Minnesota and stealing 27 pigeons, 48 mice, 36 rats and five salamanders from Elliot Hall where Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease research was being conducted. The Lyons Research Building was also broken into and extensive damage was done to equipment, computers and research data and video tapes. Damage was assessed at over \$2 million.

### **8. Break-in, Theft and Destruction at Michigan State University**

In December 1999, ELF claimed responsibility for setting an arson fire at the Agriculture Hall at Michigan State University. The blaze destroyed property and years of accumulated research on genetically engineered crops. Catherine Ives, a target in the raid, lost academic records, lecture notes, slide presentations, books, and her passport in the fire. Damage was assessed at more than \$1 million.

### **9. Yacht Damaged**

In July of 2001, animal extremists calling themselves "Pirates for Animal Liberation" claimed responsibility for sneaking onto the property of a Bank of New York executive and drilling holes into the side of his boat, sending it out to sea to sink.

### **10. Break-in, Theft and Destruction at Louisiana State University**

In September 2003, ALF claimed responsibility for breaking into LSU's Inhalation Toxicology Research lab, destroying computers and other lab equipment needed to study smoke and other toxins that can contribute to cardiovascular and respiratory disease. Damage was assessed at \$250,000. The FBI later offered a \$20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible.

### **11. Another attack on Louisiana State University**

In September 2004, ALF claimed responsibility for breaking into the Louisiana State University School of Medicine, destroying computers and research equipment. The letters A – L – F were spray painted across a glass partition and red paint was splashed throughout the laboratory. Damage was assessed at \$200,000 to \$300,000.

### **12. Two More Yachts Damaged**

In August of 2005, animal extremists vandalized two yachts at a Long Island Yacht club. The club was targeted because its membership included employees of Carr Securities, which was trading stock in HLS at the time.

### **13. Planned Holding Facility Arson**

In May 2005 animal extremists set an arson fire at Peonyland, a greenhouse owned by a Bucks County, Pennsylvania businessman who had recently applied for a building permit for the construction of a holding facility for non human primates needed in biomedical research. Peonyland's greenhouse was burned to the ground, destroying plants, and vandalizing cars and other personal property on the same evening the owner was attending a public hearing on his application, which he later withdrew.

### **14. Break-in, Theft and Destruction at Brigham Young University**

In July 2004, the letters "ALF" were found spray-painted in seven locations at Brigham Young University's agriculture center, near a recycling building to which firefighters had been called to extinguish a suspicious fire. This was the third incident that BYU attributed to ALF in a six week period during which a barn was broken into, animals and equipment stolen. Damaged was assessed at \$30,000.

### **15. Boise Cascade Arson**

In December 1999, ELF claimed responsibility for an arson fire that destroyed Boise Cascade's regional headquarters in Monmouth, Oregon. A communiqué from the ELF stated: Early Christmas morning elves left coal in Boise Cascade's stocking. Four buckets of diesel gas with kitchen timer delay destroyed their regional headquarters." Damage was assessed at \$1 million.

### **16. Break-in, Theft and Destruction at Western Washington University**

Twice within a two month period in 1999, labs at Western Washington University were broken into. Offices were damaged, equipment and research data destroyed and lab animals stolen. Damage to the lab assessed at tens of thousands of dollars.

### **17. University of Washington Arson**

In May 2001, a fire was set at the Center for Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington in Seattle. The arson was attributed to the ELF, which objected to the plant research being conducted. Damage was assessed at \$5 million.

### **18. Bombing at B&K Universal**

In February 2000, ALF claimed responsibility for placing four incendiary devices at the warehouse of B&K Universal, a supplier of products to the animal research community. Several trucks were damaged.

**19. Break-in, Theft and Destruction at UCSF**

In April 1999, animal extremists broke into three research labs at the University of California, San Francisco, shattering glass, damaging equipment and destroying research. Four mice were stolen. A group of World Laboratory Animal Week demonstrators broke into the facility and confronted a researcher. Three people were arrested. Damages were assessed at thousands of dollars.

**20. Arson at USDA Research Lab**

In June 1998, ALF and ELF claimed responsibility for setting fires at two USDA animal research buildings in Washington State. A communiqué referred to "a bonfire at facilities which make it a daily routine to kill and destroy wildlife. Structural damaged was assessed at more than \$400,000.

**\*21. HLS Employee Beaten**

In the UK, in February 2001, the managing director of HLS was brutally attacked by three baseball-bat wielding thugs in the garage of his own home. Brian Cass was hospitalized by the attack.

*Compiled from various sources by the Foundation for Biomedical Research, 2006.*

## IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

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**\*21.** In the UK in February 2001, Managing Director of HLS Brian Cass was brutally attacked and hospitalized by three baseball-bat wielding thug in the garage of his own home. The attack was meant to send a message against HLS and animal research.

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