

# Tell MetroPCS to Stop Promoting Ringling's Cruel Circus!

July 20, 2012



Richardson, TX ([RPRN](#))

07/20/12 — These [heartbreaking photos](#) reveal how Ringling circus trainers cruelly force baby elephants to learn tricks by violently slamming them to the ground, gouging them with bullhooks, and shocking them with electric prods.

Photos provided to PETA by a former Ringling elephant trainer show the ropes, chains, electric prods, and bullhooks that are used to teach baby elephants circus tricks. The photos also show the suffering that these animals endure as they are forced to perform unnatural tricks for people's entertainment.

Despite being informed about Ringling's lengthy history of animal abuse and neglect, **MetroPCS continues to promote this notorious circus to its customers by offering free circus tickets.** Ringling was recently fined \$270,000 by the

U.S. Department of Agriculture for dozens of violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act—the highest penalty *ever* paid by an animal exhibitor. According to former circus employees, Ringling trainers routinely beat elephants and jab them with sharp, metal bullhooks in order to force them to perform.

**Please contact the president and chief operating officer of MetroPCS and politely ask him to end his company's promotion of Ringling.**

## Recipients

- Thomas Keys

**Media Web Address:** <https://secure.peta.org/site/Advocacy?pagename=homepage&page=UserAction&id=4219>

**Main image credits:**

[https://secure.peta.org/images/content/pagebuilder/baby\\_elephant\\_training\\_ringling.jpg?t=1342548367108](https://secure.peta.org/images/content/pagebuilder/baby_elephant_training_ringling.jpg?t=1342548367108)

**About the author:**

For more information, please visit <http://www.peta.org>.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), with more than 2 million members and supporters, is the largest animal rights organization in the world.

PETA focuses its attention on the four areas in which the largest numbers of animals suffer the most intensely for the longest periods of time: on factory farms, in laboratories, in the clothing trade, and in the entertainment industry. We also work on a variety of other issues, including the cruel killing of beavers, birds and other "pests," and the abuse of backyard dogs.

PETA works through public education, cruelty investigations, research, animal rescue, legislation, special events, celebrity involvement, and protest campaigns.

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