July 31, 2015

The North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance (NAPSA), a coalition of eight primate sanctuaries in the U.S. and Canada, which care for over six hundred chimpanzees and other primates, is disappointed with today’s ruling by Justice Barbara Jaffe in the New York State Supreme Court, in the case of the Nonhuman Rights Project (on behalf of chimpanzees Hercules and Leo) v. Stony Brook University.

Although NAPSA is not a party in the lawsuit, NAPSA had been contacted by the Nonhuman Rights Project (NhRP) for placement assistance on behalf of the chimpanzees. NAPSA’s then-Executive Director Sarah Baekler Davis submitted an affidavit stating that, as in any case, we would follow our routine placement protocols to find the chimpanzees a permanent home at a NAPSA sanctuary, should the case be successful. The affidavit also outlined our member sanctuaries’ experience and expertise in chimpanzee care.

NAPSA’s mission is to advance and advocate for the welfare of captive primates. We look forward to the day that chimpanzees Hercules and Leo may enjoy the freedoms, enrichment and socialization of sanctuary life.

*NAPSA’s willingness to secure permanent sanctuary for these and other chimpanzees in need is not necessarily an endorsement by NAPSA or our member sanctuaries of the NhRP lawsuits or their theories.*

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