

## Coalition Letter to Crypto.com Arena Regarding the Professional Bull Riders (PBR) Iron Cowboy Rodeo on February 22, 2022

The undersigned groups call on the Crypto.com Arena (formerly Staples Center) to cancel the upcoming Professional Bull Riders' Iron Cowboy event on February 22, 2022. Rodeos are disturbing spectacles of animal abuse that glorify and promote violence, cruelty towards animals, and cause immense animal suffering.

Currently, the L.A. City Council Members have a bill in motion that would ban the use of the cruel devices that force animals to perform in rodeo events, including those used in bull riding. Los Angeles has always been a compassionate, forward-thinking city that cares deeply about the welfare of animals and laws must change to reflect the will of the public. By canceling the PBR event, the Crypto.com Arena can play an important role in standing up against institutionalized animal abuse in our city.

Animals do not perform in rodeo events naturally. Rodeo animals are terrorized into performing with the use of cruel and inhumane devices. In bull riding for example, docile bulls are often shocked with electric prods in the holding chutes. A flank or bucking strap is cinched tightly around their waists, causing the bulls to buck unnaturally. In September 2021, video footage was taken at a PBR event in Anaheim, CA, and reviewed by Dr. Peggy Larson, a Veterinarian and former bronc rider. Dr. Larson concluded, "overall, these bulls are forced to buck beyond their normal bucking patterns which makes them susceptible to injuries including broken legs."

Countless animals are injured and killed in rodeo events and training facilities each year. Those who survive the cruel rodeo circuit are discarded at slaughterhouses at the end of their rodeo career. In an interview, the late Dr. C.G. Haber, a veterinarian who worked in federal slaughterhouses for 30 years, noted by the time rodeo animals reached the slaughterhouse, they suffered extensive internal injuries, including bruising, broken ribs and punctured lungs.

We ask the Crypto.com Arena to be a part of the important social and cultural changes happening in Los Angeles and cancel the upcoming PBR event. There is no excuse for animal abuse in our city.

Sincerely,



Last Chance for Animals



Animal Alliance Network



Animal Cruelty Exposure Fund



Action for Animals



Los Angeles Animal Save



NY CLASS



Orange County  
Animal Liberation

Showing Animals Respect  
and Kindness (SHARK)



TheirTurn