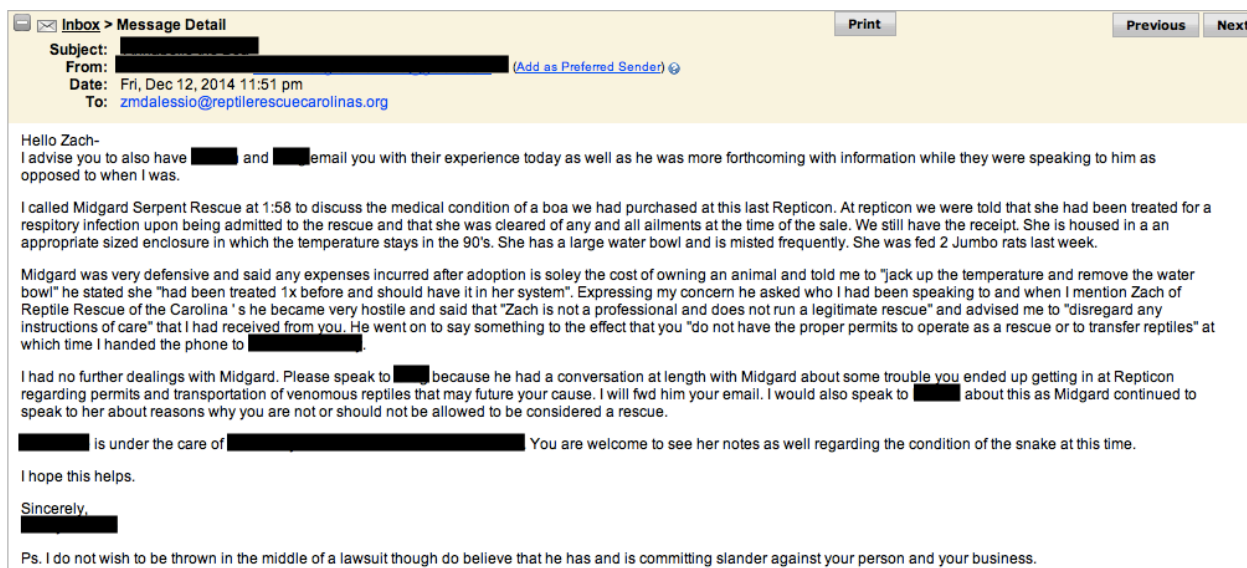


My name is Zachary D'Alessio. I am the founder and president of Reptile Rescue of the Carolinas (RROTC), a North Carolina non-profit entity for the conservation, education, research, rehabilitation and shelter of herpetofauna. We are an organization created on September 6th, 2011 in Raleigh, North Carolina and we serve the state of North Carolina and the greater portion of South Carolina.

We are a collection of herpetofauna-lovers, like many of you and we are composed of former veterinary assistants and technicians, certified wildlife rehabilitators, educators, long-term-keepers, researchers and advocates of conservation. We place everything on the line to ensure that we are able to provide homes for captive reptiles in need of a new family and to provide rehabilitation services to our injured herpetofauna for eventual release back into our ecosystem.

I have created this document to provide some insight to a very troubling matter between a like-minded organization known as Midgard Serpents Reptile Rescue. We tried remedying the situation with its CEO, Chris Eichele, and unfortunately had no success. This organization has done its best to spread misinformation about the RROTC, and I would like to take the opportunity to present the conversation a representative of this organization had with me by way of electronic communication. I wish only to provide our conversation, and our response to his claims and accusations. I will leave your opinion up to you, and only you. This is the most civil manner I believe to remedy this particular situation, as communication with Chris Eichele has not been compliant nor interested in discontinuing his actions. I, as others found in the Reptile Rescue of the Carolinas organization, are firm believers that rehabilitators and rescuers must remain vigilant and stand together in the face of troubled animals that need our assistance.

This information first became known after a troubling email received by a friend of mine. You may find the contents of the email she sent to me below. Her personal information and those she mentioned in her message have been censored according to her request for privacy. This email was sent on **12/12/2014**.

The image shows a screenshot of an email client interface. At the top, there is a header bar with "Inbox > Message Detail" on the left, and "Print", "Previous", and "Next" buttons on the right. Below the header, the email metadata is displayed: "Subject: [REDACTED]", "From: [REDACTED] (Add as Preferred Sender)", "Date: Fri, Dec 12, 2014 11:51 pm", and "To: zmdalessio@reptilerescuecarolinas.org". The main body of the email contains several paragraphs of text, with several names and identifiers redacted with black boxes. The text discusses a medical condition of a boa, a conversation with Midgard Serpent Rescue, and a request for privacy regarding personal information. The email concludes with a signature and a postscript (Ps.) stating a desire to avoid a lawsuit.

Subject: [REDACTED]  
From: [REDACTED] (Add as Preferred Sender)   
Date: Fri, Dec 12, 2014 11:51 pm  
To: zmdalessio@reptilerescuecarolinas.org

Hello Zach-  
I advise you to also have [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] email you with their experience today as well as he was more forthcoming with information while they were speaking to him as opposed to when I was.

I called Midgard Serpent Rescue at 1:58 to discuss the medical condition of a boa we had purchased at this last Repticon. At repticon we were told that she had been treated for a respiratory infection upon being admitted to the rescue and that she was cleared of any and all ailments at the time of the sale. We still have the receipt. She is housed in a an appropriate sized enclosure in which the temperature stays in the 90's. She has a large water bowl and is misted frequently. She was fed 2 Jumbo rats last week.

Midgard was very defensive and said any expenses incurred after adoption is solely the cost of owning an animal and told me to "jack up the temperature and remove the water bowl" he stated she "had been treated 1x before and should have it in her system". Expressing my concern he asked who I had been speaking to and when I mention Zach of Reptile Rescue of the Carolina 's he became very hostile and said that "Zach is not a professional and does not run a legitimate rescue" and advised me to "disregard any instructions of care" that I had received from you. He went on to say something to the effect that you "do not have the proper permits to operate as a rescue or to transfer reptiles" at which time I handed the phone to [REDACTED].

I had no further dealings with Midgard. Please speak to [REDACTED] because he had a conversation at length with Midgard about some trouble you ended up getting in at Repticon regarding permits and transportation of venomous reptiles that may future your cause. I will fwd him your email. I would also speak to [REDACTED] about this as Midgard continued to speak to her about reasons why you are not or should not be allowed to be considered a rescue.

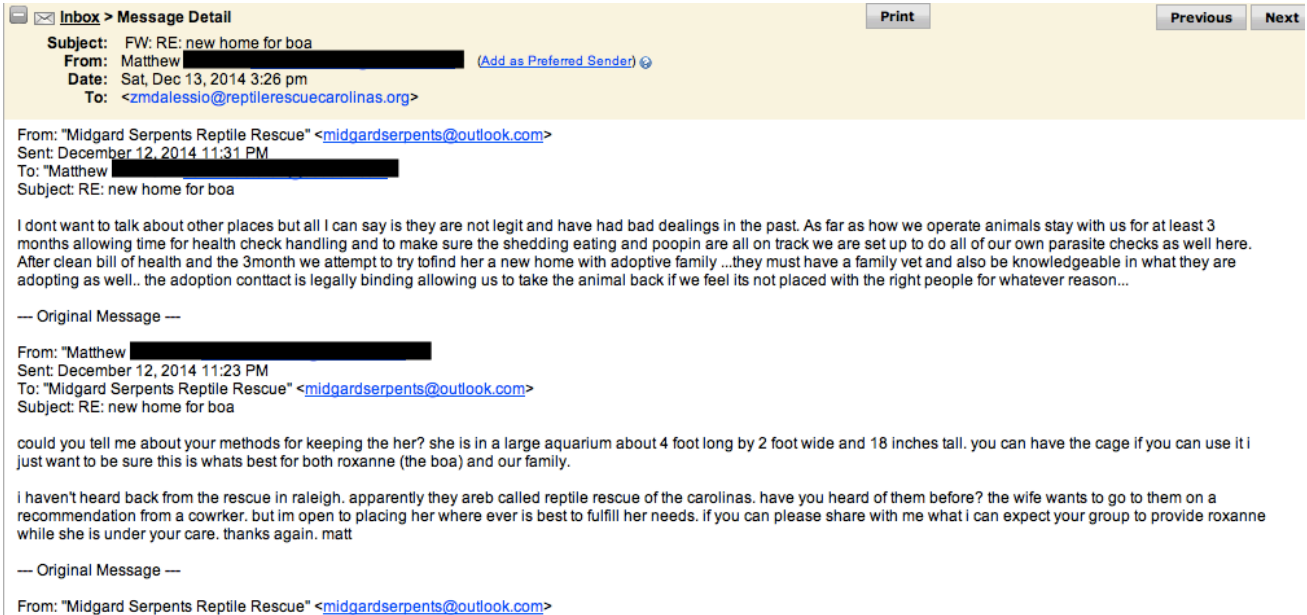
[REDACTED] is under the care of [REDACTED]. You are welcome to see her notes as well regarding the condition of the snake at this time.

I hope this helps.

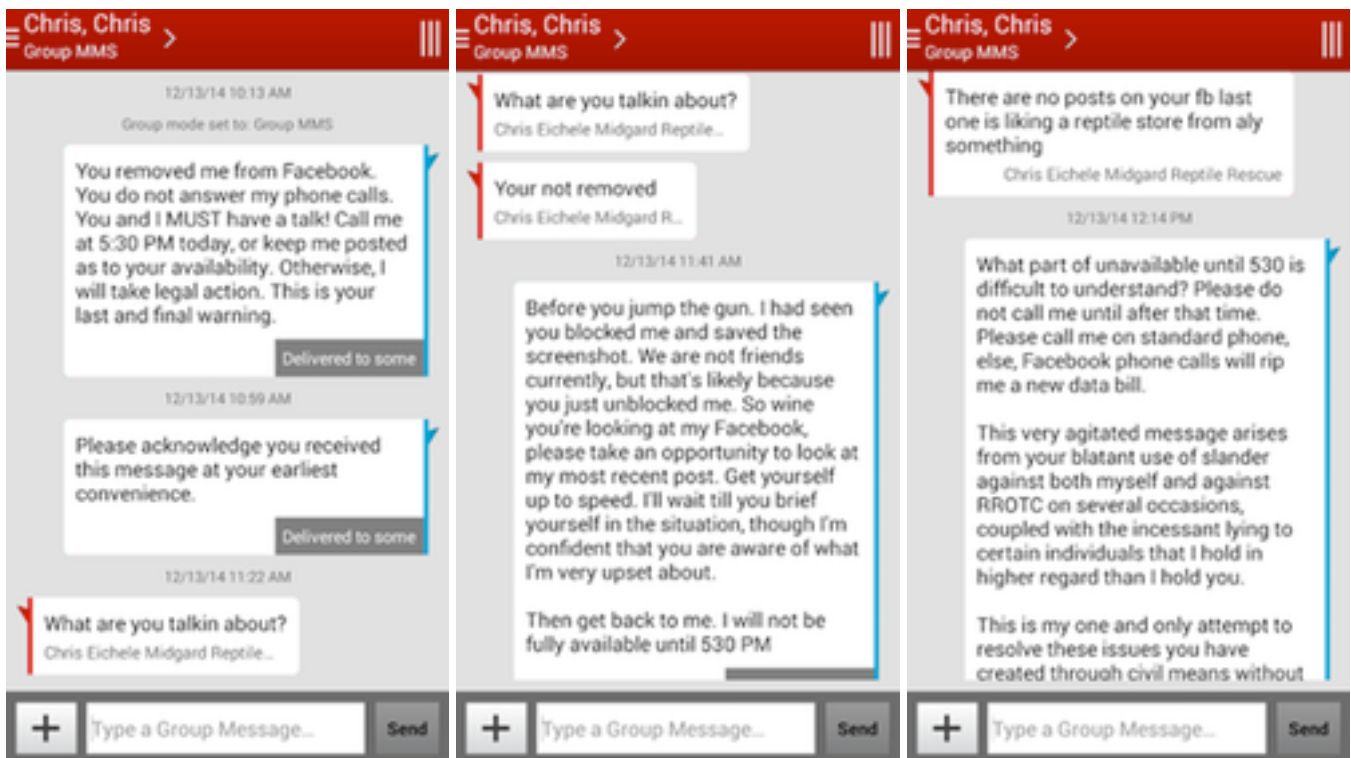
Sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

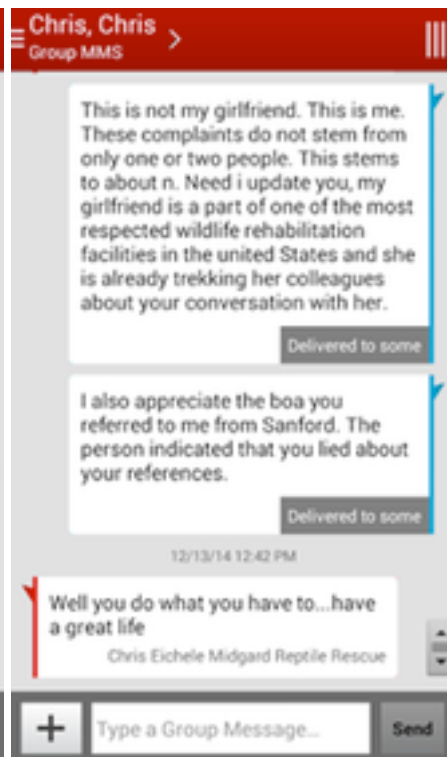
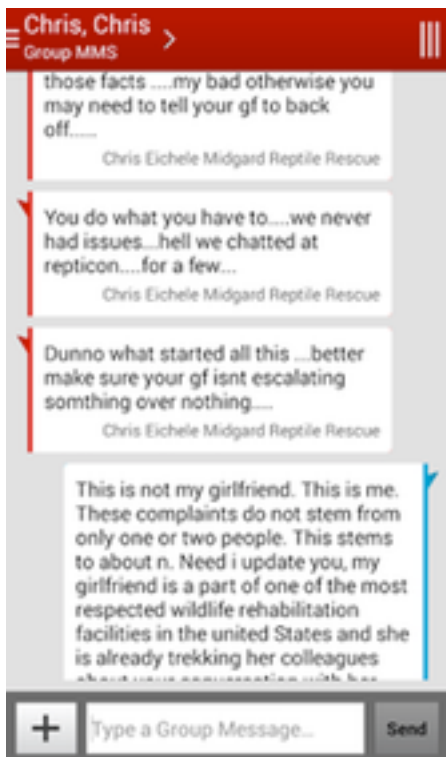
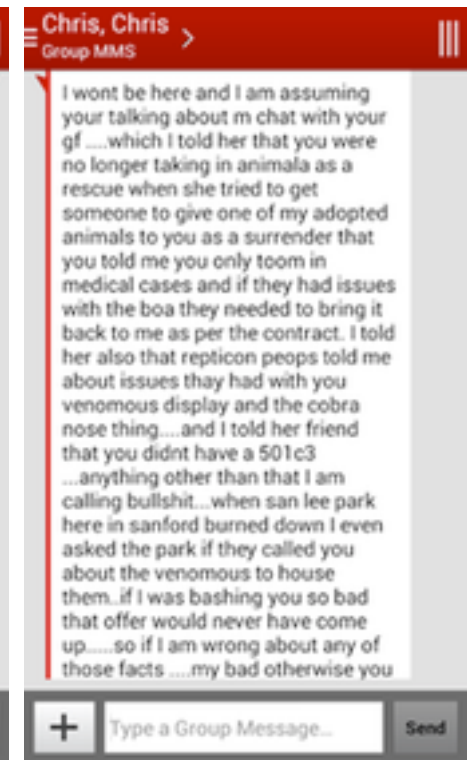
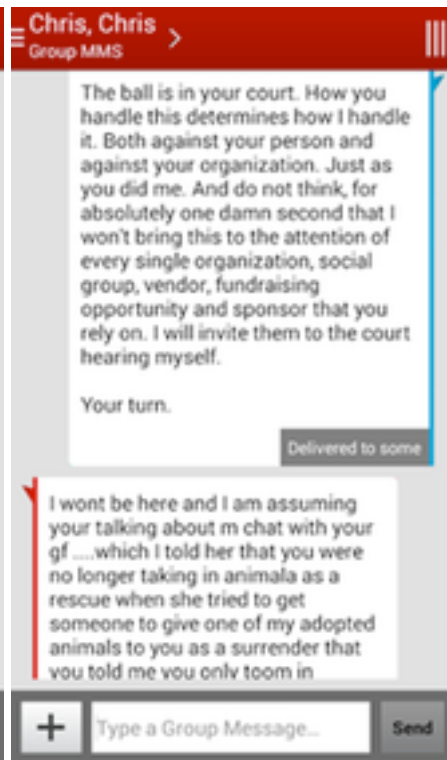
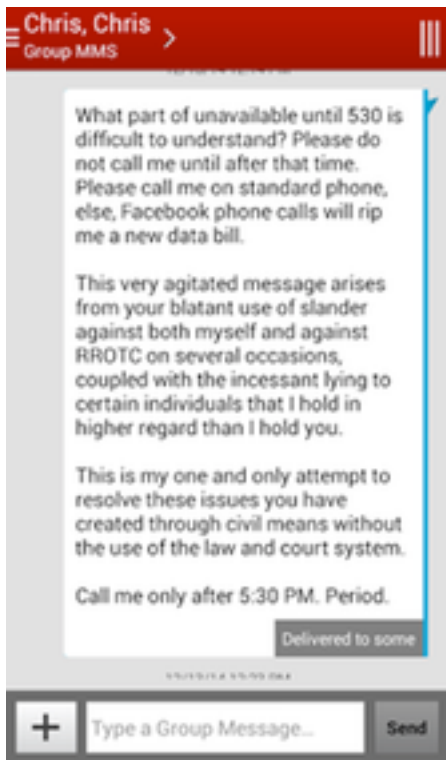
Ps. I do not wish to be thrown in the middle of a lawsuit though do believe that he has and is committing slander against your person and your business.

A friend of mine looking to rehome a boa had emailed him as well, as our organization previously indicated we were only serving sick captive animals for a duration of time last year. I received an email forward from my friend Matt, who had heard my frustration about this situation, and had inquired as to what Chris Eichele's personal opinion was on our organization. This is a copy of his forwarded email to me. Chris' response of concern to me was made to Matt on **12/12/2014** at a very late hour. This email was forwarded to me on 12/13/2014.



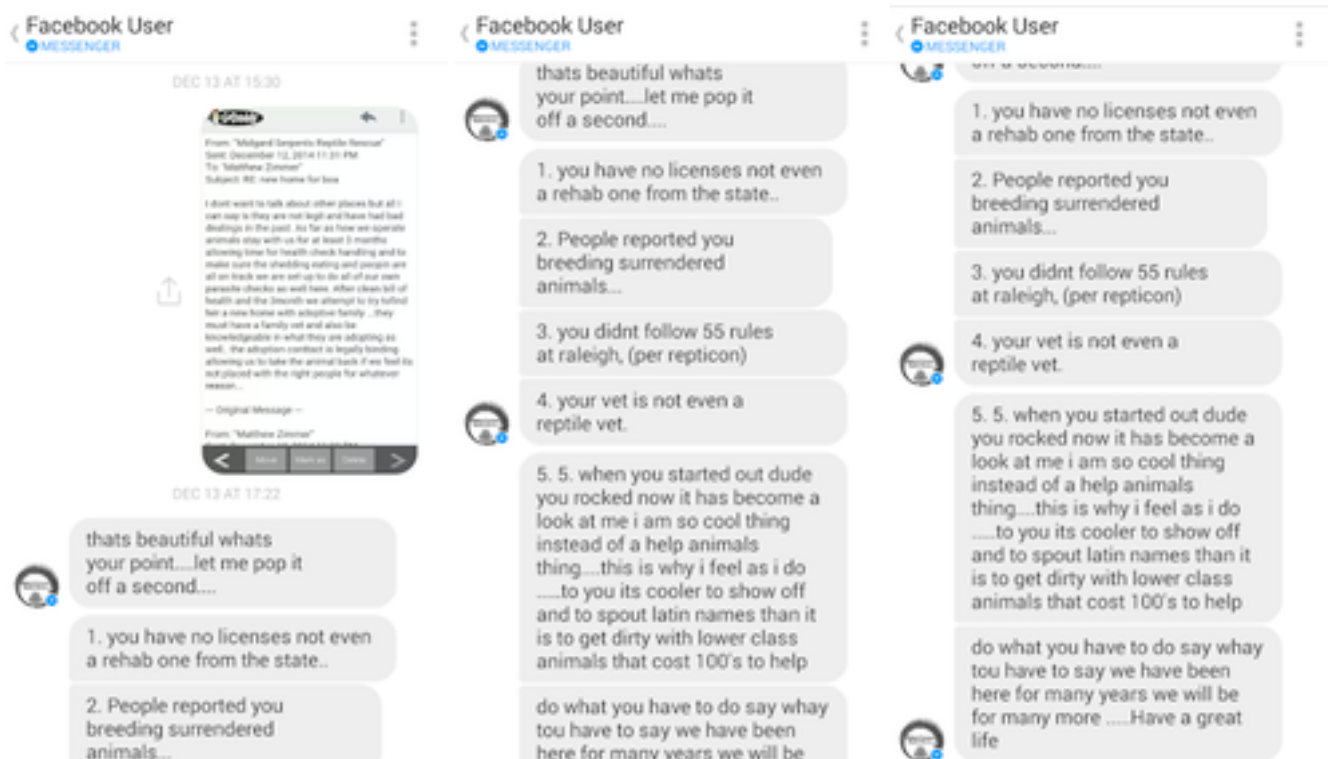
At this point, members and contributors of RROTC were very concerned. I attempted to contact Mr. Eichele to remedy this situation. After phone calls, emails and text messages, I was finally able to get in touch with him on a busy day on **12/13/2014**. I have attached our text-based transcript below. The following images chronologically follow in order, from left to right:





My biggest concern was that Mr. Eichele had lied to protect himself and his behavior. Not only do we know on two separate occasions, minimum, by facts stated above, that he told two separate individuals in two separate occasions that our organization was not to be trusted and that we were an illegitimate organization. This is very troubling, as I considered this person to be a colleague and a part of an organization that stood with the same exact goal at heart that the Reptile Rescue of the Carolinas has.

Later in the day of 12/13/2014, I contacted Chris Eichele by way of Facebook. I showed him the email that Matt had sent me (2nd email, shown above). This is what he had to say on the matter:



At this point, Mr. Eichele indirectly comes out to specify that he had a negative opinion of us, though he lied about it in the beginning, by way of text message. He claims that we are not rehabilitators. He claims that people had reported us breeding animals that were surrendered to us, which still to this day goes unheard by any rescue member in the nearly 4 years of our operation's existence. Apparently we did not abide by Article 55, a state-law, at the Raleigh ReptiCon Exhibition in November of 2014, and in conversation with ReptiCon staff, we were in complete compliance with that law, *even though our organization is exempt from said law* as an educational and animal shelter organization. Our veterinarian isn't a reptile vet. That part is legitimate, but only partly so. The veterinarian listed on our website is one used originally, two years ago. I should have updated the website when we discontinued using her services then, but I had not. Instead, we use the staff and students Colleges of Veterinary Medicine at two different universities for the benefit of reptile medicine and practice, as to hopefully provide a better tomorrow in reptile medicine, understanding, and surgery. These two colleges are Virginia Tech and North Carolina State University. I don't even know what to say about reason number five, except that taxonomy is a science, and like any other type of animal, I would like to stress the importance of proper identification.

On the next page, you will find images of our business identification as a non-profit entity with North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State, the IRS letter for EIN Identification (header), and a copy of my personal North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Wildlife Rehabilitator's Permit. **\*Please note, there are two additional wildlife rehabilitators within our organization whose licenses were not copied into this document. Additionally, I have two other permits with North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, alone, extending into endangered species that I did not copy into this article.**



Elaine F. Marshall  
Secretary

North Carolina  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE**  
PO Box 29622 Raleigh, NC 27626-0622 (919)807-2000

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**Date: 1/17/2015**

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**Corporation Names**

| Name                               | Name Type |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| NC REPTILE RESCUE OF THE CAROLINAS | LEGAL     |

**Non-Profit Corporation Information**

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| <b>SOSID:</b>          | 1220151        |
| <b>Status:</b>         | Current-Active |
| <b>Effective Date:</b> | 9/6/2011       |
| <b>Citizenship:</b>    | DOMESTIC       |
| <b>State of Inc.:</b>  | NC             |
| <b>Duration:</b>       | PERPETUAL      |

**Registered Agent**

|                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Agent Name:</b>      | D'ALESSIO, ZACHARY                  |
| <b>Office Address:</b>  | 3814 MARCOM ST.<br>RALEIGH NC 27606 |
| <b>Mailing Address:</b> | 3814 MARCOM ST.<br>RALEIGH NC 27606 |

**Principal Office**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**  
**INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE**  
CINCINNATI OH 45999-0023

Date of this notice: 06-09-2011

Employer Identification Number:  
██████████

Form: SS-4

Number of this notice: CP 575 E

For assistance you may call us at:  
1-800-829-4933

REPTILE RESCUE OF THE CAROLINAS  
% ZACHARY DALESSIO  
3814 MARCOM ST  
RALEIGH, NC 27606

IF YOU WRITE, ATTACH THE  
STUB AT THE END OF THIS NOTICE.

