

Criminal Trespass: Man Breaks Into Tiger Exhibit at Bronx Zoo

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25-year-old David Villalobos leapt into a Siberian tiger enclosure from a monorail car in the Wild Asia exhibit at the Bronx Zoo on September 21. The man declared that he was not attempting suicide, but rather had “a desire to be one with the tiger” and was “testing [his] natural fear.”

After clearing the 16-foot-high fence that enclosed the tiger exhibit, Villalobos was attacked by the 400-pound cat and had to be rescued by zoo officials who scared the tiger off with a fire extinguisher.

Villalobos has a court appearance on March 12 and plans to plead not guilty to criminal trespass.

In Arizona, a person commits criminal trespass in the third degree by:

1. Knowingly entering or remaining unlawfully on any real property after a reasonable request to leave has been made by the owner or any other person having lawful control over such property, or reasonable notice prohibiting entry.
2. Knowingly entering or remaining unlawfully on the right-of-way for tracks, or the storage or switching yards or rolling stock of a railroad company.

Criminal trespass in the third degree is a class 3 misdemeanor in Arizona.

Jeremy Geigle is a criminal defense attorney and shareholder at JacksonWhite. He has been practicing over 8 years and has handled thousands of felony and misdemeanor counts. He works in both adult and juvenile court handling DUIs, aggravated felonies and sex crimes in Arizona. He works in Federal, State and local jurisdictions including Phoenix, Mesa, Gilbert, Chandler, Scottsdale, Glendale, Tempe and Peoria. Mr. Geigle is a 5-Star-Client-Rated Attorney on Avvo. To read more about what former clients are saying about hiring Mr. Geigle or to set up a free consultation, please visit www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/criminal-defense-law.

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