

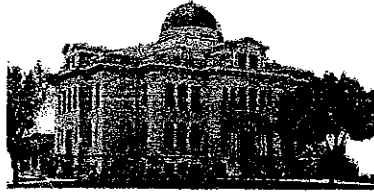
**VOTE NO ON HB 1172!**

Restricting the rights of Colorado's dog breeders will have a serious and negative effect on the state's agricultural community.

- Capping the amount of dogs that may be bred at any time threatens the livelihood of many Colorado breeders, who rely on breeding as their sole source of income. Limiting the number of dogs kept by breeders interferes with our right to breed and enjoy dogs.
- Requiring an annual health certificate from a veterinarian for each breeding dog would place a heavy financial burden on all breeders. Many breeders are located in rural areas and are very distant from a licensed veterinarian. This bill would place an undue burden on vets and breeders alike.
- The bill would grant PACFA (Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act) inspectors unlimited access to breeding facilities, day or night, seven days a week. It is unreasonable to expect a breeder to be available to open a facility 24/7. PACFA already has a system to encourage access to facilities – failure to admit an inspector is considered a failed inspection.
- All large commercial breeders are currently licensed and inspected through PACFA. It is PACFA's job to act against any breeder who violates the regulations. The Commissioner of Agriculture currently has discretion in determining the scope and penalty of violations. This bill would revoke the Commissioner's right to determine the proper recourse.

HB1172 places an undue financial and time burden on all Colorado breeders. Most Colorado breeders have been in the industry for many years with no violations. Many are active in animal rights, care, and protection organizations. Now, the industry as a whole is being made to answer for the violations of only a few breeders. Capping the number of breeding dogs while simultaneously raising the cost of business for breeders threatens the very existence of an important Colorado industry. Support Colorado businesses and the rights of breeders and **VOTE NO ON HB1172!**

Debra L. Zwirn
Commissioner District Two



Office Phone
970-522-0888

FAX 970-522-4018

Web: www.loganco.gov
E-mail: dzwirn@loganco.gov

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD
LOGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
315 MAIN STREET
STERLING, COLORADO 80751**

February 2, 2009

Colorado House of Representatives
200 East Colfax
Denver CO 80203

RE: HB09-1172

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my opinion that this is not only an unnecessary piece of legislation, but it could also be extremely damaging to small business owners across Colorado.

Reducing the number of breeding females an existing, fully compliant, licensed kennel can maintain to the number stated in this bill will so severely cripple the business owner's earning power, many legitimate kennels with huge investments in their businesses will fail.

Owners of legitimate, licensed, compliant breeding kennels care about their breeding female dogs because that's their business. Healthy dogs equal profits. It's basic business sense.

I believe the kennels that proudly display their licenses and certifications are already following the law and would welcome more enforcement of the current laws. To restrict this type of business in Colorado will only increase the number of puppies being brought in from out of state to satisfy the demand - out of state puppies that are not subject to our strict controls.

I challenge each of you to take the time to visit a good, large-scale breeder in your district. Don't succumb to the emotional propaganda.

Sincerely,

Debra L. Zwirn
Logan County Commissioner



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUBSM

Thursday, January 29, 2009

The Honorable Kathleen E. Curry
Chair, Colorado House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Cmte.
200 E. Colfax
Denver, CO 80203

RE: OPPOSE HB 1172

Dear Representative Curry:

Many responsible dog breeders and owners in Colorado have contacted the American Kennel Club (AKC) concerning House Bill 1172, known as the "Pet Animal Care and Facilities Act." On behalf of them, and in conjunction with our Colorado federation of dog owners—*The Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs*, we respectfully urge you and your fellow members of the House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee to not forward HB 1172 out of committee.

The American Kennel Club was established in 1884 to promote the study, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs. Now the world's largest not-for-profit purebred dog registry, we also represent over 4,600 dog clubs nationally, including 103 licensed clubs in Colorado, which are composed of thousands of Colorado taxpayers and voters. The American Kennel Club's mission includes working to protect the rights of all dog owners and promoting responsible dog ownership. The AKC strongly supports the humane treatment of dogs, including providing an adequate and nutritious diet, clean living conditions, regular veterinary care, kind and responsive human companionship and training in appropriate behavior. The AKC believes that numerical limits do not address the underlying issues of responsible ownership and proper dog care. Instead, the AKC supports reasonable and enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of dogs without restricting the rights of owners or breeders who take their responsibilities seriously.

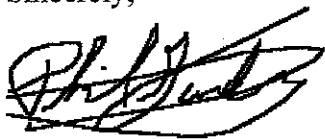
The American Kennel Club is opposed to several aspects of HB 1172, including, but not limited to, the following. First, the numerical limit of 25 unsterilized dogs that will be imposed upon breeders should HB 1172 be adopted is an arbitrary limit that unreasonably restricts the activities of responsible dog breeders regardless of the care and conditions they provide for their dogs. Additionally, please consider that statutory ownership limits, like the one proposed by HB 1172, have also been introduced in several other legislatures through the country in 2009, indicative of the idea that HB 1172 is part of a larger national agenda that is in no way intended to provide unique policy to address animal ownership issues incumbent to Colorado.

Second, HB 1172 will provide the Commissioner of Agriculture with extraordinary powers. Such powers include rulemaking and "implementation of the requirement for annual veterinary certification of female dogs that are sought to be used for breeding, including the establishment of any minimum criteria and standards." The AKC believes that owners and their dog's

veterinarians are best at determining each dog's most appropriate course of health; with all due respect, government bureaucracy is not an appropriate entity to make such critical decisions. Additionally, HB 1172 will permit the Commissioner to allow inspections of breeders' facilities at any time, juxtaposed against the current statutory requirement that such inspections be conducted only during reasonable times during regular business hours. This potential expansion of the Commissioner's power represents an infringement upon licensees' privacy rights. Additionally, we urge your committee to consider the fiscal ramifications the adoption of HB 1172 will impose upon the Department of Agriculture at a time when Colorado is experiencing significant budget deficits.

Again, along with the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs, the American Kennel Club respectfully encourages you to respect responsible dog breeders and owners throughout Colorado by not voting HB 1172 out of committee.

Sincerely,

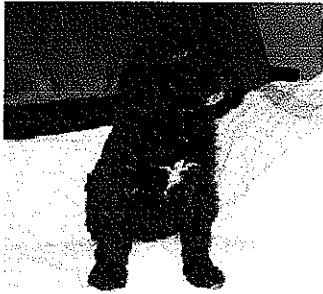
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Guidry", written in a cursive style.

Phil M. Guidry, J.D.
Legislative Analyst
AKC Government Relations Department

Cc: Members of the Colorado House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee

February 3, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:



Dog breeder Dawn Craig is our Standard Poodle Tessa's "first mom." We got Tessa from Dawn in 2005 when Tessa was about four months old. I had decided, finally, to get a dog, and wanted a Standard Poodle because of my allergies. I had thought about getting a rescue dog, but none was available at the time. So I looked on the Internet to see what was available, and saw puppy Tessa, left photo.

When I called about making our home the dog's home, too, Dawn was so concerned about Tessa getting a good home. She drove for about three hours to meet us in person so we could pick up Tessa.



Tessa was healthy, well-adjusted, and socialized when we got her. We have not had any behavior problems at all with this Standard Poodle. She is just a doll...very smart and well-behaved. My husband takes her to work with him every morning.

We couldn't be happier or more content with our healthy, happy

Standard Poodle bred by Dawn Craig. In fact, we named our Standard Poodle "Tessa Angel Dawn," after Dawn Craig. This dog has brought so much joy to my husband and me. We had lost all three of our children, so this dog is especially precious and has added so much dimension to our lives.

We have thought about getting another Standard Poodle, and if we do, we would think nothing of driving from Cottonwood, Arizona, where we live, to Stratton, Colorado, where Dawn Craig breeds quality dogs. I would not want to get one anywhere else.

SmartZone Communications Center Collaboration Suite

kharahs@comcast.net

FW: pictures of puppy

Monday, February 02, 2009 3:00:44 PM

From: carmsk@msn.com

[REDACTED]

Attachments: HPIM0078.JPG (161.2KB)

HPIM0079.JPG (182.9KB)

my web site www.carms-kennel.com

Thank you Carm

- > From: superchick@chase3000.com
- > To: carmsk@msn.com
- > Subject: pictures of puppy
- > Date: Wed, 11 Oct 2006 17:15:51 -0600
- >
- > This is scooter and he is just about 5 months old. We really enjoy him and
- > our other poodle does too. He is a wonderful dog and he can shake hands and
- > we are teaching him more. He is very easy to train. We love him and thought
- > you would like a picture of him. Thanks Arley, Susan, Gail and Cory Krueger
- > in Holyoke Colorado.
- >
- >
- >

Windows Live™ Hotmail@: ...more than just e-mail. [Check it out.](#)

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kharahs@comcast.net

FW: Dreyfus

Monday, February 02, 2009 3:08:28 PM

From: carmsk@msn.com

To: [REDACTED]

Attachments: Dogs 003.jpg (120.4KB)

my web site www.carms-kennel.com

Thank you Carm

From: PFEIF5555@aol.com

Date: Tue, 21 Feb 2006 21:22:33 -0500

Subject: Dreyfus

To: carmsk@msn.com

This is Dreyfus after his third groom. He's ornery but adorable. Thank you for making him available to us.
Pam Pfeifer

Windows Live™ Hotmail@...more than just e-mail. [See how it works.](#)





SmartZone Communications Center Collaboration Suite

kharahs@comcast.net

FW: thanks for our puppy!

Monday, February 02, 2009 3:11:25 PM

From: carmsk@msn.com



Attachments: DSC00023.JPG (76.9KB)

DSC00015.JPG (87.4KB)

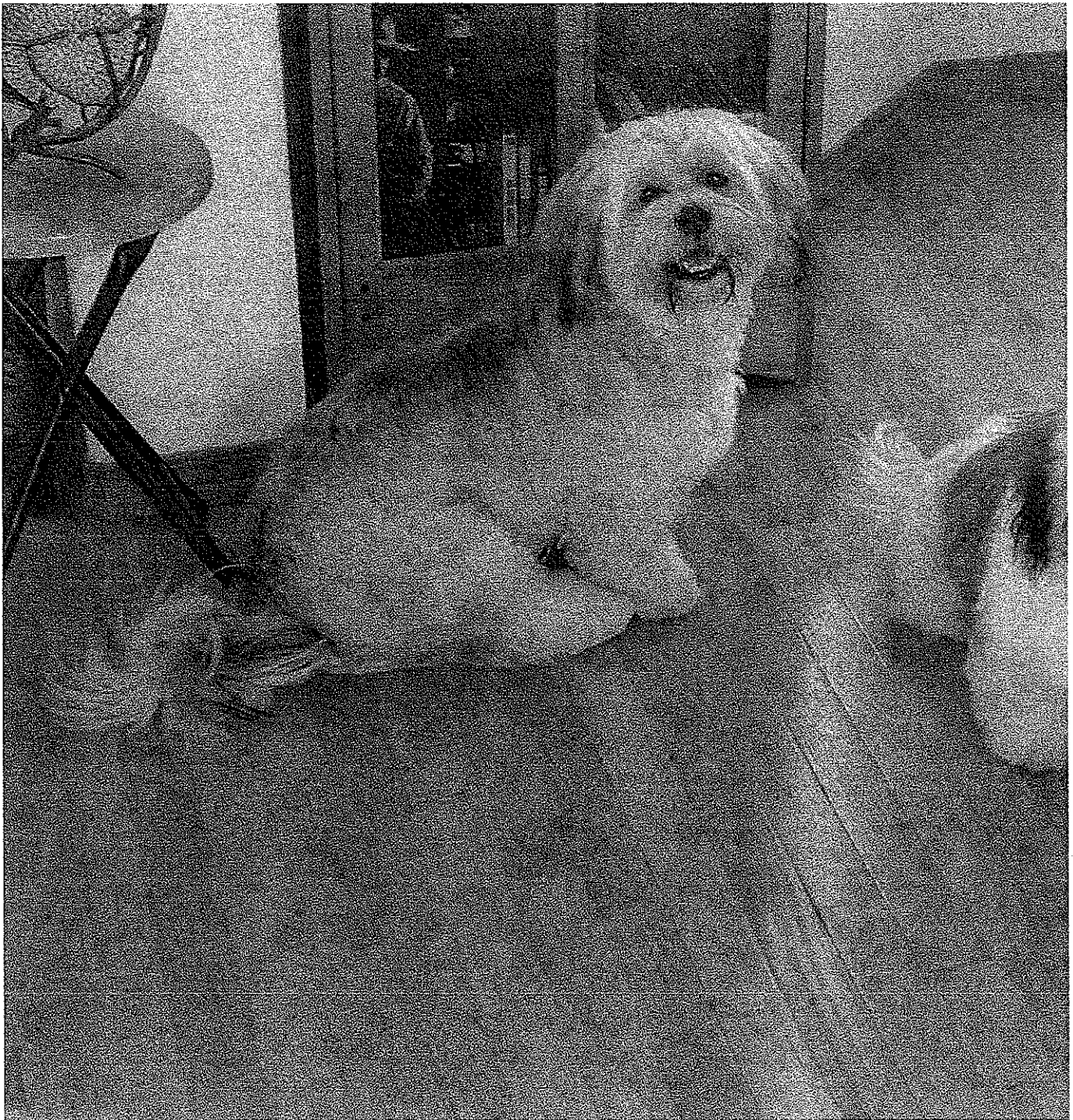
my web site www.carms-kennel.com

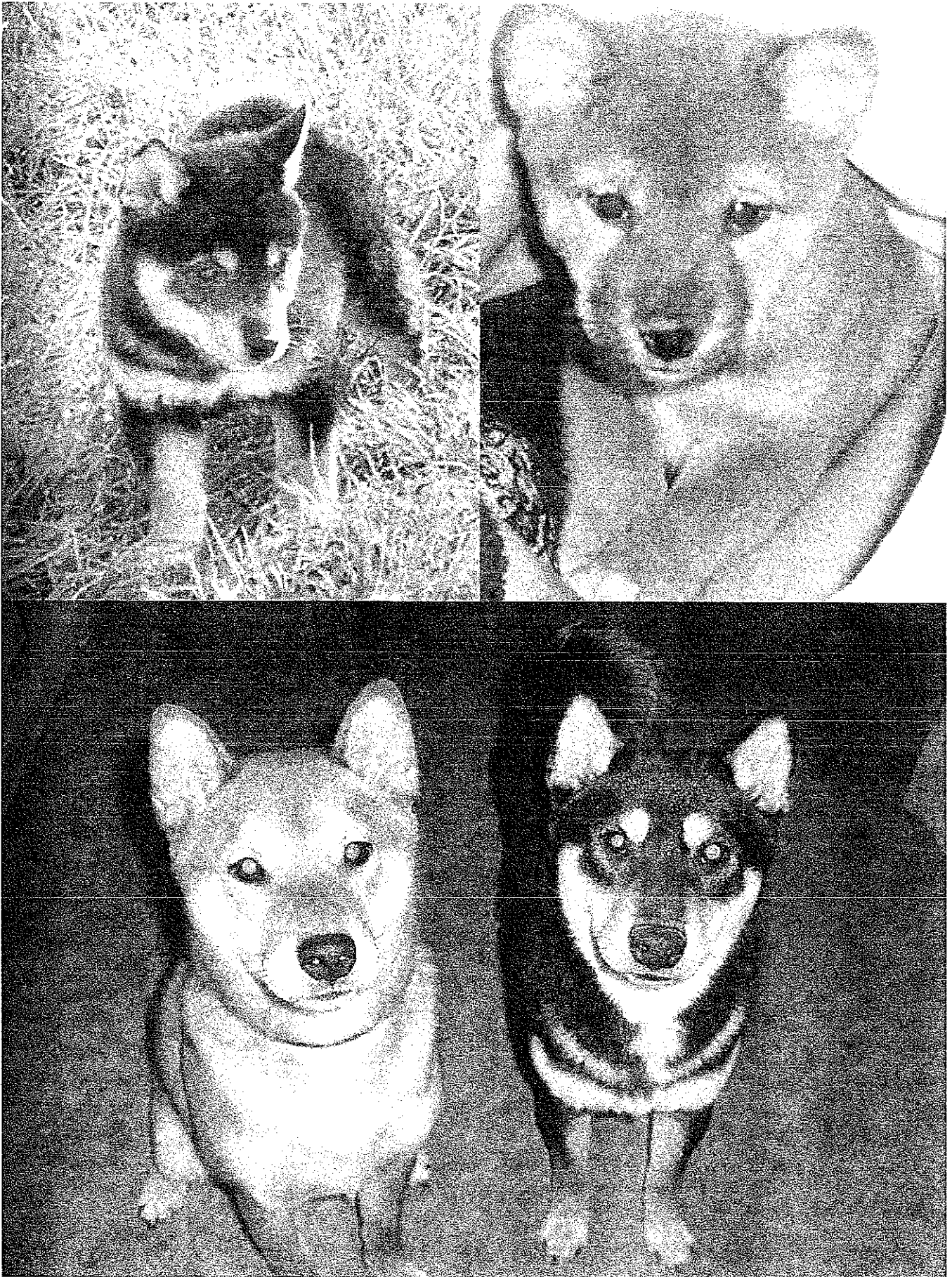
Thank you Carm

- > From: renee6750@msn.com
- > To: carmsk@msn.com
- > Subject: thanks for our puppy!
- > Date: Thu, 13 Oct 2005 21:51:12 -0600
- >
- > Carmen,
- >
- > We just wanted to say thanks for our wonderful puppy. We named her Bella
- > because she is so beautiful. I've attached a couple pictures including one
- > picture of her beautiful smile. She is doing well in puppy classes and
- > seems to get smarter everyday. She loves people and other animals. She is
- > a true joy. Thanks again!
- >
- > Renee, Dylan & Bella Lewis
- > Broomfield, CO
- >

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SmartZone Communications Center Collaboration Suite

kharahs@comcast.net

FW: Ref Letter for carms
kennel

Monday, February 02, 2009 8:35:47
PM

From: carmsk@msn.com

To: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 2 Feb 2009 17:41:30 -0800
From: ttjc220@yahoo.com
Subject: Letter
To: carmsk@msn.com

February 2, 2009
RE: Carm's Kennel
Carmen Revord
Peetz, CO 80747

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Carm's Kennel on a personal basis of having one of her dogs in my home now for 4 years. That had been well cared for before coming to my home and obviously was well treated. The 2 year old english bull dog was in good health and not fearful of humans in any way. Several people I work with at sterling regional medical center have gotten their puppy from carm as well as other aquaints and everyone seems to be happy with their kennel and the dogs they bought.

Any time I have had the opportunity to be in Carms kennel I have been impressed with the care all of the dogs get. I have been in the kennel at times when Carmen wasn't expecting me so nothing was done to prepare. As a RN I would know if the dogs or pups were sick or mistreated. Knowing Carmen personally I know the time she spends with the animals and how well they are cared for. She protects the animals when she travels with them I know this because we often go to denver together and most of the time Carm takes pups for people to pick up. Carm always has the puppies well being as her first interest. I feel it would be a shame to limit her as nothing is suffering in her care and with the love and dedication to her dogs nothing ever will if she has any say.

One of the many times with Carm into denver there is one that sticks out in my mind, a nice looking well groomed couple came up to us as we were meeting another family that had been out to the kennel but had to wait untill their puppy was old enough and these people were nice we visited and they played with the pups. they wanted to buy one of her pups she gave them her card told them to go home and do some reacherch and call the kennel in a

few days if they still thought they wanted a puppy. After they walked off I asked why she didnt sell them the puppy and she said she wanted them to put forth the effort to come to her and she believed if they bought a puppy out of reaction they could change their mind and just as easy that was not fair to puppy. That is just one of the things that over the 9 years I have been friends with carm that constantly shows her dedication to her dogs.

Sincerely,
Terry Carwin
31815 CR 64
Iliff, CO 80736
(970)520-1058

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SmartZone Communications Center Collaboration Suite

kharahs@comcast.net

FW: Letter

Tuesday, February 03, 2009 7:51:18 AM

From: carmsk@msn.com

To: [REDACTED] et

The Neugebauer Family
15400 County Road 22
Ovid, CO 80744

To Whom It May Concern:

We purchased two purebred miniature poodles from Carm's Kennel of Peetz, Colorado, in October 2006. Our experience with purchasing the puppies from Carmen Revord was positive and educational. Carmen seemed very knowledgeable about dogs and answered many of our questions. She showed us both of the puppies' parents and allowed us to take pics of them for our puppies' scrapbook. Carmen was very helpful in explaining how to care for the young poodles including feeding, bathing, grooming, adjusting to a new home, and keeping them healthy. A week after we brought the puppies home, Carmen called to check on them. They were doing quite well fitting in with our family. There were also several occasions when we called Carmen for some advice about caring for our puppies. She always had helpful information. We were given puppy food, toys, vitamins, registertation and pedigrees as well as sheets of information on caring for the puppies when we brought them home.

Our son helps out at Carm's Kennel periodically. He says that they keep the dog pens cleaner than his room, He loves grooming days at the kennel cuz they work 10-12 hours but Carm feeds them well and there's always a big crowd of people there to help. The dogs get regularly feed and watered; we have become good friends with Carmen and her family since buying our pups. Carmen is a caring person who helps people all the time. I think it's great she is able to help bring joy to a person's life by breeding and raising dogs so they are available to become someone's best friend.

Carmen does a nice job caring for the puppies and dogs in her kennel. She is a good mom and a good person.

Sincerely,

Joe and Corrina Neugebauer

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To All Concerned Parties,

I am writing in hopes of shedding some light on both sides of the issues concerning animal welfare in the state of Colorado. I am into my 4th decade and have been involved with animals all of my life. Our family has owned and raised animals in Colorado since I can recall, and firmly held the belief that animals are here for our use, and while humans had dominion and owned them, that they were to be kindly treated, and well cared for. As a teenager, I took in strays, and cared for the sick and wounded. I volunteered at the local Humane Society near Longmont. I felt bad for the animals no one wanted and started to really believe that if no one bred a purebred dog that all of the ones in the shelter would surely get placed. I even joined a group called PETA, but dis-associated when I realized the insanity of their often illegal actions, which soon became apparent to me, even as a teen. As I matured, I worked in the animal industry, mainly dairy, owning and operating my own Dairy, Vet care, was a Deputy, and trained dogs. I married, into a family who had kenneled and had raised good healthy family pets since 1961. In 1990 my husband and I took over the family kennel which we still have today. We have been licensed with PACFA since it was formed, and even encouraged the then PACFA regulations. While we have always been in good standing.

I have always stayed involved with animal WELFARE, founded and currently run a small, outdoor, efficient 501c3 shelter in Crowley county where animals were still being dumped and or shot on a regular basis until we came along in 1994. I do animal control for my county and take in animals from many surrounding towns and see many things which I feel ought to be of particular concern, and have as of yet not been of a great concern. Reported as well as have I witnessed neglect, abuse, hoarding, pack breeding, back yard breeding without even the slightest knowledge of animal care, horses at sale barns with feet hanging off and much more, including city run animal shelters which would not even provide heat for a cement brick building, or required lighting. This is what prompted me to start our own shelter. I am very concerned that the current laws we have are simply NOT being upheld. We have had a local collector whose wild dogs were killing neighboring animals on a regular basis, and for several years, I testified in court and even spoke to the person's attorney to let him know that we could assist in the situation, and nothing was done until one good deputy came along and helped to capture the feral animals so they could be humanely destroyed.

There is a HUGE difference between animal WELFARE and animal RIGHTS. Several years ago our shelter gathered hundreds of signatures in support of an HSUS in our area of the state. Now knowing the truth behind the HSUS and PETA movement I am glad we never went to put it on the ballot.

Many good families in Colorado who choose to raise animals because of enjoyment or otherwise would be affected by this HB 1172. It is grouping people together, taking away their rights of ownership.

Most kennels who have come forth to pay for licensing and have regular inspections, who would not be in business today if they were abusing their animals are at risk in this situation. Any Good business person knows that one's business practices will catch up to them, and if practices are not ethical that will come to light as well. I urge you to talk to kennel owners, is it justifiable to take away anyone's constitutional right to ownership of an animal, (which is our property) so long as they are humanely caring for it? What is next? Chicken and cattle, or our guns? This is still America isn't it?

Most recently Colorado Humane Society is a prime example, of Humane organizations gone wrong...

I also find it a bit ironic that the Mill dog rescue of Colorado goes to other states to bring in animals they purchase at auctions (which to my mind is perpetuating puppy mills by freeing up space for yet another breeding animal) bringing the dogs and pups to our state to sell. I mean isn't there enough COLORADO dogs to salvage from shelters? Look at what is really going on here. Also, I personally know of 2 people who were threatened by the Mill dog rescue group, one is an elderly lady in Trinidad (who has a small group of breeding dogs, and is licensed and inspected with a good record) she was told that if she did not surrender all of her dogs, eventually she would be run out of business because Mill dog rescue were bringing in 100's small pups and dogs to Colorado. (I ask are all of these animals health checked before entering our state?) I was contacted by another woman who was giving away puppies, she had rescued in front of a Wal-mart. She identified Teresa Strader (milldogrescue) as the person who stomped out of her car screaming at her and shouting that she was going to get her. I think these passions are being carried a bit too far! We can look back at so called rescues, Mrs. Strickland, Ms Port and the current collection of mostly inadaptible animals (Blue Lion Rescue, Yoder) living a life in a kennel because someone decided to make themselves feel good and rescue them. I would say the limit law ought to pertain to Rescues, hoarders and collectors as well. I can only see this as trouble in the making, backyard breeder will be crating in basement again. If you would like any more info... please feel free to contact me Respectfully Dawn Scheck 1-719-267-4848 or pickmeplease2008@live.com Lets be FAIR.