



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

USDA Inspection Report Quotes: Examples of Severe Violations

The quotes below are excerpts from inspection reports on licensed dog breeders (Class A) and dog dealers (Class B) acquired by The HSUS from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) between 2007 and 2012. The information was found via online inspection report database searches and/or acquired through open public records requests.

Some licenses have been cancelled since the information was first gathered. Cancellation dates are noted if known. When a license is listed as cancelled, it is often unknown whether the operator discontinued the license voluntarily or involuntarily. Some operators who are no longer licensed by the USDA may still be in business selling puppies directly to the public. The sale of puppies directly to the public does not generally require a USDA license but may require a state license in some states.

Yellow highlighting was added by HSUS for ease of reference. Highlighting was not a part of the original reports.

ARKANSAS

“Upon review the Program of Veterinary Care document, the licensee was indicated to be the person responsible for euthanasia and the method of euthanasia was not specified. The applicant stated that she would ‘bend the head a certain way and the neck would break.’”

- USDA inspection of **Kimberly Alexander**, 71-A-1284, Gamaliel, Ark., Sept. 15, 2010 (USDA license active through Sept. 2012)

“During the last inspection an approximately one year old female Bulldog, chip #4A35721269, was identified to be evaluated by the attending veterinarian. During this inspection after asking the dealer as to her whereabouts the dealer and her spouse stated the spouse had tied the animal onto the back of a flat bed pick-up truck then returned to the kennel. When he returned to the truck he found the animal had hung itself off the side of the truck.”

- USDA inspection of **Barbara Gullett/Gullett Kennel**, 71-A-0748, Russellville, Ark., Oct. 5, 2010 (USDA license active through Feb. 2013)

“An adult female Papillon [sic], identification number 039875585, had a grayish colored mass of material accumulated on her upper and bottom canine and cheek teeth. This was present on both sides of mouth. A creamy, white discharge was present near the gum line on both sides of the upper teeth. The gums were

reddened and swollen. There was some hair stuck in the front teeth of the dog's mouth, and when the owner pulled the hair a tooth came out with the hair. This area started bleeding after the tooth was removed. An adult female Yorkshire Terrier, identification number 084825614, had a grayish colored mass of material accumulated on her upper canines. The gums around the teeth were reddened and swollen. The dog only had eight teeth left in her mouth. The dog was drooling and licking repeatedly with her tongue. Dental disease can make it difficult for an animal to eat and can be painful."

- USDA inspection of **Tanni Morris/Tanni's Precious Paws**, 71-A-1287, Charleston, Ark., Nov. 2011 (USDA license active through Oct. 2012)

"An adult female Scottish Terrier, identification number 0A01597443, had three lesions that were not under treatment at the time of inspection. There was an area approximately one inch by one inch on the lateral side of the left leg near the ankle. There was hair loss and scabs on the skin. There was an area approximately two inches by two and a half inches on the mid back. This area had hair loss, multiple small scabs approximately ¼ inch by ¼ inch, and was moist. There was an area on the top of the head that was about one inch by one inch that was bloody and moist."

- USDA inspection of **Tanni Morris/Tanni's Precious Paws**, 71-A-1287, Charleston, Ark., Nov. 2011 (USDA license active through Oct. 2012)

"During the inspection an approximately 10 year old black and white male Pomeranian, no ID was observed panting heavily with its tongue distended and excessively salivating to the point of its chest being wet. The animal was housed in the outdoor raised hut area. The dealer was instructed to move the animal to the whelping building which had cooling."

- USDA inspection of **Sarah Young**, 71-A-0676, Hardy, Ark., June 2011 (USDA license active through Sept. 2012)

"There was a female Jack Russell, no identification which had a laceration on its right front leg. The laceration was approximately 1.5 inches long and 0.75 inches wide at midpoint. The laceration was approximately 0.25 inches deep, reddened, and had a serious discharge. The laceration was located midway between the elbow and paw. There was an 0.75 inch lesion with loss of hair and reddened skin on the medial paw. There were also pinpoint lesions on the dorsal paw. The owner stated she noticed the injury the previous evening. The owner had bandaged the wound with gauze and vetwrap."

- USDA inspection of **Kim and Mort Marshall/Heart Chasers K9's**, 71-A-1012, Farmington, Ark., July 2010 (USDA license active through Feb. 2013)

GEORGIA

"There are 4 unweaned schnauzer puppies that recently had ear crops. The ears are raw and not healed. The puppies are not in the whelping box and are currently laying on the wire in feces. The exposure of open wounds to feces can cause infection."

- USDA inspection of **Tom Coleman/Copper Lake Kennels**, 57-A-0178, Alma, Ga., Dec. 14 2011 (USDA license cancelled Jan. 2012)

ILLINOIS

“The third female had a large area on the back of the hips where the tissue had become necrotic, red and oozing with tissue fluids and possible infection. There are areas within these sores where there are holes into the back that go approximately ½ inch deep. In one hole there appears to be some material that is either granular type tissue or possible fly eggs or larvae. It was difficult to see clearly without proper examination. **The animal is clearly in distress due to the constant licking and chewing at the area. The owner advised that the area has been being treated by themselves for the past 5 months.**”

- USDA inspection of **Dee Deterding/Triple D Kennel**, 33-A-0423, Hillsboro, Ill., Mar. 24, 2011 (USDA license cancelled Jan. 2012)

“There is a dog 9yrs old -#35 (Noel)- that was found lying very still on the floor of her primary enclosure. This female was not moving or barking with all of the other animals in the kennel. Upon closer inspection the dog had her tongue sticking out of her month, dry, cold and gray in color, her gums were completely white and her body was very cool to the touch in an 80 deg. Environment. **She was not very responsive when picked up by the licensee, and once put back in the primary enclosure she laid her head back down flat on the floor with no attempts at trying to swallow or bring her tongue back in her mouth. Breathing was fast and shallow.** It was unclear if the animal had been sick or if this was a new condition, as the daily caretaker was not available and there was no record of any treatment. There was liquid diarrhea under the tail, light brown in color with possibly some blood in it.”

- USDA inspection of **Lavern Troyer/Troyer Kennel**, 33-A-0488, New Burnside, Ill., Aug. 9, 2011 (USDA license active through Dec. 2012)

“Upon inspection of the outdoor runs a dead dog (chihuahua #194) was found in the cage where three other dogs remained. “

- USDA inspection of **Anna and Stephen Mast/Mast Country Kennel**, 33-A-0503, Opdyke, Ill., Jan. 19, 2011 (USDA license cancelled June 2012)

IOWA

“The licensee stated that he “euthanized” the following animals using a 22 rifle: Poodle #30 (F, DOB 11-26-05) on 7-31-09; Pug #16 (M, DOB 3-18-06) on 6-24-09; Beagle #37 (F, DOB 9-14-02) on 3-16-09; Shih Tzu #31 (F, DOB 5-29-02) on 12-21-08; Beagle #5 (F, DOB 12-16-00) on 12-15-08; Beagle #26 (F, DOB 2-4-03) on 2-25-08; Beagle #1 (F, DOB 10-15-02) on 9-30-07; and Beagle #6 (F, DOB 6-9-02) on 1-12-07.”

- USDA inspection of **Joseph Beechy/Beechy’s Kennels**, Bloomfield, Iowa, Nov. 17, 2009 (USDA license cancelled July 2010)

“Under the 2 raised enclosures there is a large amount of feces. It is approximately 10" high.”

- USDA inspection of **Joseph Beechy/Beechy’s Kennels**, 42-A-1233, Bloomfield, Iowa, June 2009 (USDA license cancelled July 2010)

“Only the owner is caring for 253 adult dogs and 58 puppies. He indicated that he could not afford to hire any additional help. It is apparent with the number of violations documented on this and other reports, that the number of employees is insufficient to properly care for all the medical and husbandry needs of these animals.”

- USDA inspection of **Keelee and Marty Gadiant/ Gadiant Kennels**, 42-A-0707, Cascade, Iowa, May 2010 (USDA license cancelled Nov. 2010)

“1 Maltese in the same pen did not have any teeth left and was not eating or drinking in a normal manner because the jaw structure is deformed. Unable to drink and eat properly the muzzle area and entire front of the dogs coat was wet and soiled from water and drool running out of the mouth.”

- USDA inspection of **Gertrude and Leroy Kruse/Kruse Kennel**, 42-A-0181, Salem, Iowa, Aug. 30 2010 (USDA license cancelled April 2012)

“A total of 66 dogs at the facility were identified to be in need of veterinary care by a veterinarian licensed in the state of Iowa during the time of inspection. These veterinary care issues included chronic skin conditions, gingivitis, dehydration, and umbilical hernia, ear parasites and infections, chronic eye problems, abscesses of the scrotum, and various purulent discharges from the penis and anus as per the veterinarian.”

- USDA inspection of **Harold Powell/Thunder Ridge Kennel**, 42-A-1384, Wyoming, Iowa, March 2010 (USDA license cancelled Oct. 2010)

“Some of the dogs were found to be dehydrated by the veterinarian on site. When questioned about watering, the license holder indicated that the dogs had last watered in the later afternoon on the day prior. The inspectors arrived at the facilities on or about 3:30 PM. Therefore, the dogs had not received water twice in a 24 hour period.”

- USDA inspection of **Harold Powell/Thunder Ridge Kennel**, 42-A-1384, Wyoming, Iowa, March 2010 (USDA license cancelled Oct. 2010)

“A young Golden Retriever dog, with no ID, was identified that was underweight. Very prominent hip bones and vertebrae. This dog also had a prominent limp with an old wound down the length of the right front leg. There was also feces adhered to the anal area of this dog. This dog was housed with an overweight Rottweiler. As stated by the licensee the Rottweiler would not always let the Golden Retriever eat. Animals can be underweight due to diseases, parasites, malnutrition, or other medical conditions. The licensee must have this animals examined by a veterinarian in order to ensure that they receive an adequate diagnosis and treatment plan. The licensee must provide the inspector with documentation of this visit, preferably in writing upon request. The licensee must ensure that all animals receive adequate veterinary care at all times. The licensee must have this animal examined by a veterinarian in order to ensure that they receive an adequate diagnosis and treatment plan (Oct. 27, 2009). Documentation concerning the veterinarian visit concerning the young Golden Retriever was presented to the inspector. The animal in question was examined on Oct. 31, 2009. No treatment was provided to this animal. Licensee elected to donate this dog to a rescue organization on Nov. 1, 2009” (but failed to document with paperwork). (Nov. 4, 2009)

- USDA inspection of **Ed Schmidt**, 42-A-0976, Bloomfield, Iowa, Oct. and Nov. 2009 (USDA license active through Sept. 2012)

“Throughout the outdoor housing facilities there was no bedding provided. When the temperature falls below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, clean, dry bedding must be provided. The temperatures within the last month has consistently dropped below 50 deg. F and several evenings of this past month the temperature has dropped down below 35 deg. F.”

- USDA inspection of **Ed Schmidt**, 42-A-0976, Bloomfield Iowa, Oct. 2009 (USDA license active through Sept. 2012)

“In the large electric fence enclosures there are large puddles of standing water from the current rainfall. The water is under and next to the electric fence and the dogs run through the water to approach people. The electric fence and standing water combination is not safe for the dogs if they contact the fence when standing in the water.”

- USDA inspection of **Ed Schmidt**, 42-A-0976, Bloomfield, Iowa, June 2009 (USDA license active through Sept. 2012)

“Under the outside part of the enclosures at the back of the small dog building there is a large amount of feces. Feces have not been removed from these areas for several *months*.”

- USDA inspection of **Ed Schmidt**, 42-A-0976, Bloomfield, Iowa, June 2009 (USDA license active through Sept. 2012)

KANSAS

“The licensee state that he “euthanized” Poodle #97 shortly after the inspection on 16 March 2010, (“Poodle #97 is thin in appearance during the on site inspection. Visual observation showed that the dog has no teeth. The back bone and ribs were felt during the inspection”). The method of euthanasia was stated to be via rifle.”

- USDA inspection of **Bill and Phyllis Sherbert/Sherbert’s Kennel**, 48-A-2069, Clay Center, Kans., May 18, 2010 (USDA license active through Oct. 2012)

“Owner stated, ‘Get off my place!’ Owner was asked if she was refusing to finish the inspection? Owner said, ‘Yes, I don’t care if all the dogs die!’”

- USDA inspection of **Beth Ann Tinsley**, 48-A-2077, Bronson, Kans., July 21 2010 (USDA license cancelled Dec. 2011)

“Female Shih Tzu with chip number 0A01501960 has hair matted around the anus. There is stool caught in the matted hair. The owner removed the matted hair and fecal material and skin beneath is red. Soiled matted hair can cause skin infection and become painful.”

- USDA inspection of **Charlene and Darlene Koster**, 48-B-0271, Minneapolis, Kans., June 2011 (USDA license active through Sept. 2013)

MINNESOTA

"There were also several animals that had injuries that upon inspection the facility had no documentation that the conditions were communicated to the attending veterinarian and that adequate veterinary care was provided. Among the animals included but not limited to a Husky with a laceration on the right torso, a pregnant Bichon that later died, a seizing English Mastiff that was euthanized by a method that was not approved by the Attending Veterinarian after reviewing the Program of Veterinary Care, and American Bulldog with facial lacerations, a seizing Pekingese that later died, an emaciated English Springer with a runny nose and a crusty left eye, a Pug with a corneal condition of the right eye that was later euthanized by an unapproved method, an English Bulldog with an approximately 2.5 x swollen left rear leg and a swollen left ear from a possible dog fight 5-6 days previously, and a Shih Tzu that had an eye nucleation that was later euthanized by an unapproved method."

- USDA inspection of **Kathy Bauck/Puppy's on Wheels**, 43-A-4941, New York Mills, Minn., June 13, 2008 (USDA license permanently revoked Sept. 2011)

MISSOURI

"Overnight last night, two cocker spaniel/ bichon fries puppies (DOB = Dec. 9, 2007) were found dead in the enclosure by the licensee. Overnight lows in the area were in the mid to low 20's. In addition, another poodle-type dog was found dead inside a shelter in an outdoor enclosure that licensee had previously stated was not currently being used for animals. There was no bedding present in that shelter and the animal was emaciated with prominent ribs, hips, vertebrae, and a tucked abdomen. Brief physical examinations were performed on the remainder of the dogs in the facility. Every dog at the facility had medical conditions that require veterinary attention."

- USDA inspection of **Deanna Brundage**, 43-A-4941, Mercer, Mo., Dec. 27, 2007 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2008)

"Licensee stated that at least seven and possibly as many as ten animals were shot by her boyfriend approximately one week before Thanksgiving. She stated that the animals were shot in the head using a 30-30 rifle. She stated that some of the bodies were burned and others were hauled off to an unknown location by her boyfriend. She provided the following information concerning animals that were shot:

1. Cocker spaniel; female; #21; microchip 043-059-273; killed because of 'tumors on her udder'.
2. Cocker spaniel; female; #23; microchip 083-045-283; killed because of 'tumors on her udder'.
3. Maltese; male; #20; microchip 086-768-543; DOB = 8-13-01; killed because he had hair loss, she dipped him, and he did not improve.
4. West Highland white terrier; female; #33; killed because she aborted two weeks before she was due to deliver.
5. Poodle; female; #26; microchip 091-081-107; killed because she never would get bred.
6. Bichon frise; male; #28
7. Schnauzer; male; #15; killed because he started losing weight."

- USDA inspection of **Deanna Brundage**, 43-A-4941, Mercer, Mo., Dec. 27, 2007 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2008)

“At the time of the inspection, three dead dogs were found in enclosures on the premises. The owner stated that she was not aware that these dogs had died until our inspection. The dead, unidentified, female basset hound ‘Amy’ was extremely emaciated. Her ribcage, shoulder blades, and backbone were very prominent with almost all detail of the bone structure visible. The abdomen was extremely tucked and sunken in. The owner stated that ‘Amy’ had weaned her 10 pups approximately 1 month ago. The owner had not sought any veterinary care or advice concerning ‘Amy’. Two other unidentified dead white poodle or poodle mixes were discovered during the course of the inspection. These dogs were both very thin. One of the dogs had its head sticking out of the dog door to the sheltered portion of the enclosure and was frozen to the enclosure floor. The other dog was dead inside the shelter of its enclosure. No bedding or food was present in any of these dogs’ enclosures. The owner had not consulted the attending veterinarian concerning the health of these dogs.”

- USDA inspection of **Deanna Brundage**, 43-A-4941, Mercer, Mo., Dec. 26, 2007 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2008)

“Outside this pen was noted a dead adult female boxer, covered with a feed sack, that had died the day before. This dog appeared very thin. Owner stated she had been treating this dog but no medical records were available.”

- USDA inspection of **S & S Family Puppies**, #43-B-0435, Milan, Mo., July 2004 (The USDA license for Diana Stephenson and S & S Family Puppies was cancelled in May 2011, but Brandi Cheney is still licensed at a different address under Circle B Farms, LLC, # 43-B-3698, license active through June 2013.)

“At time of inspection a female, Dachshund (#222) was found dead in an outdoor rung with another living dog.” [Report does not state how the dog died, but the licensee was also cited for keeping 20 Dachshunds outside with zero bedding when the temperature was 28 deg. F.]

- USDA inspection of **Tina Carr/Simply Puppies**, 43-A-5672, Hannibal, Mo., Jan. 10, 2011 (USDA license active through Oct. 2012)

“At time of inspection of outdoor temperature the outdoor temperature was 13.6” F and the surface temperature in various boxes ranged from 0-9°F. Approximately 80 dogs had primary enclosures that contained 1/2 -2 inches of wood shavings or pellets. One dog was observed to be shivering and had frozen droplets on its chin. The amount of bedding evident in the enclosures was not sufficient to allow the animals to burrow into for additional insulation/protection against extreme cold. Additional bedding must be provided within 12 hrs.”

- USDA inspection of **Tina Carr/Simply Puppies**, 43-A-5672, Hannibal Mo., Feb. 29, 2011 (USDA license active until Oct. 2012)

“At this inspection, there was a wheel barrow full of green water that has dogs' skeletal remains in the water. Owner states that this is one of the dogs that she had euthanized. She left it in wheelbarrow with lime and was going to bury it when weather permitted. The skeletal remains need to be buried in the next 24 hours.”

- MDA inspection of **Charlene Fisher**, Greentop, Mo., Aug. 27, 2009 (Not MDA licensed in 2011)

“At this inspection, there was a strong odor of something that was dead as we approach the gate to the facility. When asking the owner what the smell was, she stated she had a puppy that had died the night before. When questioning on how strong the odor was she said it had died two (2) days prior.”

- MDA inspection of **Charlene Fisher**, Greentop, Mo., Sept. 15, 2009 (Not MDA licensed in 2011)

“An unweaned, female ‘yorkie-poo’ puppy, born 10-11-08, was not moving. Upon closer observation, the puppy had dry, crusty, yellow exudates around both eyes. There was also a thick, moist, yellow to brown colored exudate around the nose and muzzle. The gums were extremely pale and the hair coat was in poor condition. This puppy had not been seen by a veterinarian and at the time of inspection the licensee was verbally instructed to have the dog examined by a veterinarian as soon as possible. During the inspection, the licensee informed the inspectors that before a veterinarian could be found, the puppy had died.”

- USDA inspection of **Paul and Pollie Gingerich**, 43-A-3766, Bogard, Mo., Nov. 24, 2008 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2010)

“A puppy, approximately 6 weeks old was observed to have prominent ribs, dull eyes and hair coat and appeared to be weak, as it had difficulty walking. Upon closer observation, the puppy had a brownish colored substance along the muzzle. When the licensee placed the puppy back in the enclosure, the puppy started to retch with abdominal effort. According to the licensee the puppy had been this way for approximately three days. The puppy had not been seen by a veterinarian at the time of inspection and the licensee stated there had been no improvement with the facility’s attempts at treatments.”

- USDA inspection of **Paul and Pollie Gingerich**, 43-A-3766, Bogard, Mo., April 22, 2008 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2010)

“In another enclosure on the South side of the building—housing a female Jack Russell Terrier and her three puppies—one of the male puppies was found laterally recumbent (right side down) with its head arching backwards. An attempt was made to stimulate this puppy from underneath the enclosure but there was no obvious response. The licensee was immediately notified of the situation, whereby he removed it from inside the enclosure. A brief examination revealed that this puppy was still alive—palpation of the chest detected a heartbeat, and there was still a mild/moderate palpebral eye reflex. There was soft fecal material matted in the hair around its rectum. The licensee was notified that this animal was to be taken to the attending veterinarian for euthanasia by an AVMA-approved method that day. However, an interview conducted with the attending veterinarian on Monday, June 9, 2008 did reveal that neither of these two animals have been examined/ treated by him as of yet.”

- USDA inspection of **Tim King Jr./Doo Little Kennel**, 43-A-4499, Rolla, Mo., June 5, 2008 (USDA license cancelled May 2010)

“In another enclosure (South side of main dog building)—housing an adult female Cocker Spaniel and her male puppy—the puppy appeared to be very depressed and lethargic. According to the licensee, there were originally seven puppies in this litter, but all of the littermates were born dead. Physical examination of the puppy revealed moderate/ severe dehydration, with tenting of the skin on the back of its neck. The

licensee subsequently placed the puppy back down on its feet, where it took a couple of steps and laid right back down. Both of these animals are in need of veterinary attention.”

- USDA inspection of **Tim King Jr./Doo Little Kennel**, 43-A-4499, Rolla, Mo., April 21, 2008 (USDA license cancelled May 2010)

“Since the first part of December, 2007 this facility has incurred three mortalities that revealed through subsequent necropsies these animals were heartworm positive. The mortalities were attributed to the identified heartworm infestations and related complications. At least ten additional dogs have been tested following removal from the kennel with all dogs found to be positive for heartworms.”

- USDA inspection of **Cathy and Robin Pritchett**, Rives, Mo., Jan. 23, 2008 (USDA license cancelled April 2008)

“Appropriate treatment of an eye condition noted on the July 10, 2007 inspection of two adult chocolate Labrador retrievers was not taken. These dogs were observed in July with eyes that were milky and cloudy. The eyes appeared enlarged and dilated. The adult male of the pair was also noted as having extremely poor body condition. The dog’s body condition score on a 9 point scale would have been in the 2 to 3 ranking. Protrusions of several ribs, vertebra structure, and hips were easily noticeable. The owner was directed to consult with the attending veterinarian in regards to diagnosing the problems and implementing treatment. On 12/7/07 the female of this pair was still on site and in an enclosure with another female chocolate Labrador retriever. The female is still exhibiting enlarged, milky eyes. Upon questioning, the owner stated the male viewed on the last inspection had died shortly after that visit. No necropsy had been performed on this animal. He stated the attending veterinarian had viewed the female dog during an onsite visit during September. According to the owner the attending veterinarian had indicated that the condition could be due to leptospirosis. He stated further that no diagnostic measures had been taken. At this time this dog has received no treatment and the female she is currently housed with is exhibiting the same condition that has been described with cloudy eyes.”

“In the second concrete enclosure from the south end on the east side of the kennel an adult Labrador retriever was observed dead within the shelter. The owner stated the dog must have died sometime during the previous day. He stated that he had observed her with a distended abdomen before death. No treatment had been initiated. No diagnostic efforts have been taken at this point. The owner stated that within the last three months at least two other adult Labrador retrievers had died on premises.”

“During the inspection it was observed that two adult dogs had whelped within the last day in hutch units that were not provided with bedding, adequate wind/ rain breaks, or additional heat sources. Current outside temperatures were approximately 40 degrees F with temperatures during the previous days considerably lower. No measures had been taken to ensure appropriate shelter for newborn puppies. The four puppies observed were dead.”

- USDA inspection of **Cathy and Robin Pritchett**, Rives, Mo., Dec. 7, 2007 (USDA license cancelled April 2008)

“The licensee is housing one litter of Wheaton Terrier puppies in an outdoor housing unit. There were 7 live puppies in the box. One was found dead during inspection. The heat lamps were off and unplugged. Although the temperature during the inspection had reached approximately 60 F, it was cold earlier in the

day and overnight. It was unknown when the heat was turned off in this insulated box. It is unknown if the cold was the cause of the death of the puppy. The licensee stated that she had seen the puppy not doing well the day before but took no additional action.”

- USDA inspection of **Diane Swearingen/S & D Kennel**, 43-A-1747, Aurora, Mo., Jan. 22, 2009 (USDA license cancelled March 2009)

“A Pomeranian puppy was observed in the nebulizer. The puppy was motionless. Upon closer examination of the puppy – the gums were white, there was whitish matter around the puppy’s mouth, and it was unresponsive to external stimulus. Closer examination showed the puppy was deceased. The licensee (owner), manager, and animal caretaker could not provide information regarding why the puppy was sick, the status of its treatment, and why that particular treatment approach was being used. No documentation was available on this puppy indicating that the attending vet had seen, diagnosed, or prescribed treatment.”

“During a review of breeder acquisition and disposition records dated from April 17, 2009 through June 10, 2009, an approximately 2.7 percent mortality rate was calculated. There were approximately 1277 puppies purchased in this time frame and 46 are listed as deceased. These puppies are purchased by the licensee at 8 weeks of age or older. This seems to be a higher than normal mortality rate for a facility of this size and in the short o a time period for puppies that are over the age of 8 weeks and visually healthy at time of purchase.”

- USDA inspection of **Tracy’s K & J Pets**, Fair Grove, Mo., June 10, 2009 (USDA license cancelled April 2010)

“At time of inspection there were six 4 week old golden doodle puppies that were in need of immediate veterinary medical attention. According to the licensee, she suspected an 'infection' in the tail area. Upon conferring with her veterinarian via phone, she 'crimped' the tails. The crimp did not completely cut through the entire thickness of the tail (approximately ¼ inch depth completely around the tail) leaving the end of the tail below the 'cut line' hairless, lifeless, lumpy and limp. At the site of the incision there appears to be evidence of swelling. The wound was a circumscribed incision around the tail approximately 2 inches from the base exposing the raw moist, red issue and white tissue with a smooth surface that appeared to be bone/cartilage. The cut area was not bandaged and was left exposed to the environment which included: flies, outdoor housing, dirt, hay and wood surfaces. The hair around the cut surface was soiled with dirt and grime.”

- USDA inspection of **Brenda Walter/Hidden Valley Farms**, 43-B-0425, Greencastle Mo., Oct. 2010 (USDA license active through Jan. 2013)

“According the licensee 6-four week old golden doodle puppies had swollen tails and when pressure was applied to the tail, “infection came out.” Pre-procedural care did not include the licensee actually taking the puppies to be seen by a veterinarian. Licensee conferred with a veterinarian and performed a “surgical procedure” without anesthesia nor any pre/post procedural analgesia. After care procedure were inadequate and did not include: analgesia, bandaging, and appropriate housing surfaces to minimize chance of infection. The affected area was not bandaged and open to bacteria, dirt and flies. Outdoor housing surfaces the puppies were in contact with included: dirt, grime, wood, hay, gravel and metal.”

- USDA inspection of **Brenda Walter/Hidden Valley Farms**, 43-B-0425, Greencastle, Mo., Oct. 2010 (USDA license active through Jan. 2013)

“This is a focused inspection on one cock-a-poo-cavalier type pup, originally sited [sic] on June 29 2010. The pup appeared depressed and was not interacting with other pups in the enclosure. On July 6 2010 a focused inspection was conducted, the owners advise that the pups expired shortly after the initial inspection was completed.”

- USDA inspection of **Becky and Jerry King/Kings Kennel**, 43-B-3432, Salisbury Mo., July 6 2010 (USDA license cancelled May 2012)

“A female Chihuahua, tag 545 was observed to be lethargic and shivering in her enclosure. When this dog was removed from her enclosure there was a mucodial red discharge from her vulva. This could be a sign of infection or other medical condition. **This dog had whelped 3 puppies on 29 October 2010, only one male puppy was still alive.**”

- USDA inspection of **Joseph Detweiler , Leroy Detweiler/Sunset Ridge Kennel**, 43-A-5447, Princeton, Mo., Nov. 4 2010 (USDA license active through Dec. 2012)

“In the whelping building there is a pen with 2 puppies. One is sick and the other puppy is dead. The owner states that they have been sick for awhile and she has been treating them.”

- USDA inspection of **Beth Conley/Wee Paws Kennel**, 43-A-2976, Salem, Mo. (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2012)

“An adult female Rottweiler housed in the sheltered facility ‘Large dog whelping house,’ Microchip number 037816319 **was excessively thin with prominent ribs, hip bones and vertebrae and an exaggerated waist and abdominal tuck. When the inspector asked about the small number of pups present with this dog, the employee informed inspector that this dog whelped 6 puppies the prior day but that 4 had died.** This could be a sign of disease, poor nutrition, parasites or another medical condition.”

- USDA inspection of **Lou Cox**, 43-A-1969, Chillicothe, Mo., Dec. 2010, (USDA license cancelled March 2012)

“In several of the exterior sections of the sheltered enclosures there was an excessive amount of fecal material. In some of these enclosures the amount of feces made it difficult for the dogs to avoid stepping in it. Under all of the raised style outdoor enclosures there was an excessive amount of feces. **When the inspector asked the licensee when she had last removed the feces from under the raised style enclosures she had it had not been removed since last fall.**”

- USDA inspection of **Brandi Cheney/Diana Stephenson/S & S Family Puppies**, 43-B-0435, Milan, Mo., March 1, 2011 (The USDA license for Diana Stephenson and S & S Family Puppies was cancelled in May 2011, but Brandi Cheney is still licensed at a different address under Circle B Farms, LLC, 43-B-3698, license active through June 2013.)

“In the outdoor facility there are 4 adult Chihuahuas in one primary enclosure. One of these Chihuahuas has expired and was laying in the housing facility. The owner removed the expired dog from the housing

facility. Extreme lividity and bite wounds were noted. The owner states that he feels it was due to a heat cycle among one of the females and a compatibility issue. One other Chihuahua in this primary enclosure was noted to have dried blood covering her body and fresh blood on her left front foot.”

- USDA inspection of **Glenda and William Ledbetter/End-O-Lane Kennel**, 43-A-3506 , Lebanon, Mo., April 9, 2008 (USDA license cancelled Jan. 2012)

“The female on the top left side of the whelping building had blood staining on the feet. The animal was observed in the pen with the individual toes sticking through the holes in the wire. This was applying the weight of the animal to the webbing between the toes. The animal was not moving around in the pen due to the sore feet.”

- USDA inspection of **Stacey Pitts**, 43-A-3480, Cross Timbers, Mo., June 2008 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2010)

“There were at least two puppies in two different pens seen with the feet and legs of the puppies falling through the openings in the wire flooring. One puppy was trapped in the exterior portion of the sheltered enclosure in the doorway with a spring loaded door pressed against him and could not get up since his feet and legs were through the wire. The other was a very young puppy who had rolled off of a mat and could not get back onto the mat since his feet and legs were through the wire floor.”

- USDA inspection of **Diane Swearingen/S & D Kennel**, 43-A-1747, Aurora, Mo., Aug. 2007 (USDA license cancelled)

“There was a beagle female, ‘Julie’ that had a severe wound in her right groin area. The licensee stated that the dog had been in a fight a week ago and that she had seen two small puncture wounds. She had been treating this dog herself with penicillin injectable and a topical spray. The wound had opened or ruptured and it was gaping open several inches long and wide. The surrounding skin tissue was inflamed and the body wall and muscle tissue were exposed under this torn or ruptured skin.”

- USDA inspection of **Diane Swearingen/S & D Kennel**, 43-A-1747, Aurora, Mo., Jan. 2009. (USDA license cancelled)

“There was a litter of one week old Wheaton terrier puppies in outdoor housing. One puppy was found dead during the inspection. The licensee stated that the puppy had not been doing well the day before. She had not provided any treatment or supportive care to the puppy when she observed that it was failing.”

- USDA inspection of **Diane Swearingen/ S & D Kennel**, 43-A-1747, Aurora, Mo., Jan. 2009 (USDA license cancelled)

“The feet and legs of puppies were observed at multiple times to be falling through the wire mesh floors of the enclosure. In addition, in one of the enclosures in the lower tier, there was an adult Pug (with an amputated right front leg) being housed on a similar wire mesh floor. This 'handicapped' animal would be more prone to injuries of the paws and lower extremities due to the instability of the flooring provided and also being unable to properly distribute its weight over all four legs. At the time of the inspection, the Pug was observed staying put in one corner of the outdoor portion of the enclosure and appeared to be reluctant to move around.”

- USDA inspection of **Tim King Jr., Doo Little Kennel**, 43-A-4499, July 2008 (USDA license cancelled May 2010)

NEBRASKA

"There is a dead female golden retriever that had been tied to a post behind the east kennel and shot in the head with a .22 caliber gun. The facility owner stated that the dog had been shot because she had killed all of the puppies in her litter. A gun shot is not an approved method of routine euthanasia. The written program of veterinary care states that all euthanasia will be in accordance with the AVMA recommendations and guidelines. Euthanasia is to be carried out by a veterinarian."

- USDA inspection of **Barbara Crick/Crick's Kennels**, 47-A-0426, Burwell, Neb., Feb. 2008 (USDA license active through Dec. 2012)

NEW YORK

"Currently the dog's sheltered area of the enclosure is a wood box that when closed allows no light into the box. So when the dogs are inside the sheltered section of the enclosure for long periods of time over the winter they do not have access to natural or artificial light."

- USDA inspection of **Samuel Brubacker/Hilltop Country Kennels**, 21-A-0083, Dundee N.Y., Sept. 2007 (USDA license active through April 2013)

"The records indicate that over the summer 6 female dogs died a few days to week after whelping puppies. The licensee never contacted the attending veterinarian to get guidance on the situation or determine a possible diagnosis why the dogs died. A method of direct and frequent communication needs to occur with the vet when health issues develop to address the situation and to prevent other deaths from occurring."

- USDA inspection of **Jason Hoover/Jay Dar Pugs**, 21-A-0104, Clyde, N.Y., Sept. 28, 2010 (USDA license cancelled March 2012)

"One Pomeranian had its tongue hanging out and upon closer observation, had no visible teeth. In addition, the dog is thin with ribs evident and a concave tuck to the abdomen."

- USDA inspection of **Lawrence Martin/Law Line Kennels**, 21-A-0141, Dundee N.Y., May 2010 (USDA license cancelled July 2011)

"During the inspection one cocker spaniel was not moving in the enclosure and upon closer observation it was evident that the pads of her right front foot were trapped in the wire mesh."

- USDA inspection of **Lamar Witmer**, 21-A-0135, Auburn, N.Y., April 2010 (USDA License cancelled June 2010)

"There were two dead neonate puppies in the whelping box with the mother and the rest of the litter. The female was very unresponsive to stimuli and the other puppies attempting to nurse."

- USDA inspection of **Aaron Zimmerman**, 21-A-0075, Dundee N.Y., Feb. 2010 (USDA license active through Aug. 2013)

“One small breed female in the whelping room with a litter of 5 was very thin. The ribs and lumbar vertebrae were easily seen with no fat cover and the hips were protruding. The food bowl was empty and when food was given the female consumed food eagerly.”

- USDA inspection of **Aaron Zimmerman**, 21-A-0075, Dundee N.Y., March 2009 (USDA license active through Aug. 2013)

NORTH DAKOTA

“In addition, during the exit interview, the licensee admitted that during his time of being licensed he had shot at least four dogs to euthanize them.”

- USDA inspection of **Jack Thomas**, 45-A-0108, Cannon Ball N.D., Sept. 2007 (USDA license cancelled Aug. 2008)

OHIO

“A female brown and white Cocker Spaniel (no ID, found in the first Raber building on the lower left) has an injury or birth defect to the left eye. The eye appears to be missing which may be a birth defect. The business partner/ caretaker stated he did not know about the dog and never noticed the problem before.”

- USDA inspection of **Roy Hershberger**, 31-A-0332, Millersburg, Ohio, May 2010 (USDA license cancelled March 2011)

“There is a male poodle wearing USDA tag # 41-B-0190 2607 that has outgrown the chain collar. This has caused the chain to dig into the neck causing a severe open wound nearly around the entire neck with the throat area being the worst. Licensee began removing the collar and bright red blood and pus started dripping from the throat area. The collar and tag was too embedded on the left of center side of the neck to be removed. Licensee bought the young dog approximately three months ago at an auction. This dog is suffering.”

- USDA inspection of **Isaac Martin**, 31-A-0015, Shiloh, Ohio, May 2010 (USDA license active through June 2013)

“Male pug with USDA tag #324 was down and unresponsive in his enclosure. Other dogs in the enclosure were jumping around and stepping on him. Licensee picked up the dog and a moderate amount of red colored fluid was noted at the end of his prepuce. Licensee contacted a licensed veterinarian who sent a representative to pick up the dog within ten minutes. It was later learned the dog died either in route to the veterinarian's office or shortly after arriving.”

- USDA inspection of **Quantus Center LLC**, 31-A-0371, Walnut Creek, Ohio, Aug. 23, 2011 (USDA license active through Jan. 2013)

“A Yorkshire Terrier was noted to have hair loss over the majority of its back. The skin was thickened and darker in color than normal for the breed. The skin over the back was covered with numerous scabs.”

- USDA inspection of **Quantus Center LLC**, 31-A-0371, Walnut Creek, Ohio, March 2010 (USDA license active through Jan. 2013)

“Licensee stated that the dogs are fed every other day. It was observed that three beagles found without food ate voraciously when a handful of food was added to the feeder by the inspector.”

- USDA inspection of **Quantus Center LLC**, 31-A-0371, Walnut Creek, Ohio, May 2010 (USDA license active through Jan. 2013)

“A 1 day old puppy was observed to have what appears to be a maternally inflicted open skin wound over the left side of the chest.”

- USDA inspection of **Quantus Center LLC**, 31-A-0371, Walnut Creek Ohio, March 2010 (USDA license active through Jan. 2013)

“A dead puppy was found in the whelping box of adult dogs with Tag #349 and Tag #554. These dead puppies were not noticed in the am hours when feeding is conducted. A daily observation of all animals must be conducted on the first walkthrough to determine if any of the animals require veterinary care.”

- USDA inspection of **Edwin Shirk**, Willard, Ohio, Dec. 6, 2007 (USDA license cancelled April 2008)

“There is a dog wearing USDA tag # CR52 that was observed to have some matted fur near its mouth. Closer inspection revealed a significant amount of puss and an extremely foul odor. Per phone conversation later that evening, licensee stated that he’d observed the foul odor and intended to administer antibiotics and observe for a couple of days before contacting his attending veterinarian.”

- USDA inspection of **Christ Yoder/Creekside Kennels**, 31-A-0112, Millersburg, Ohio, Feb. 2010 (USDA license active through Dec. 2012)

“Two puppies were observed with their feet passing through the wire mesh flooring. One puppy wearing a paper collar with the number 3429 had its jaw actively stuck in the wire mesh. Both upper and lower jaw appeared stuck. Upon removal of the pup it was observed to be very weak and have a very slow heart rate and its breathing was extremely raspy ... The pup was taken to see the Attending Veterinarian the same day where seizure activity was observed. The election to humanely euthanize this puppy was made.”

- USDA inspection of **Jacob Yoder/Jay Kennels**, 31-A-0265, Millersburg, Ohio, Oct. 2007. (License active through April 2013.)

“The dog wearing USDA tag #115 has a severe ear injury that the licensee stated was caused by the clippers. This wound had left a flap of skin just hanging.”

- USDA inspection of **Owen Yoder**, 31-A-0198, Millersburg, Ohio, June 2008 (USDA license active through May 2013)

“A female King Charles Spaniel (tag #153) has a cloudy left eye. The eyeball is swollen and there a 1 mm depression in the center of the eye. The licensee stated he noticed this yesterday and treated it yesterday and today. He produced a tube of triple antibiotic ointment that he has been treating with. He has not received guidance from the attending veterinarian for the treatment of this dog.”

- USDA inspection of **Reuben Troyer**, 31-A-0197, Aug. 2, 2011, Millersburg, Ohio (USDA license active through May 2013)

“On May 4 2009, an adult female brown and white dog (tag #7) named “Judy” was noted to have matting and drainage from both eyes. The eyes were opaque in appearance. Also the dog was rubbing its eyes on the kennel flooring and walls. The licensee’s wife stated during that inspection that the dog had eye problems since birth. The animal required veterinary attention to determine the problem with its eyes and a course of treatment. The licensee was given a correction date of May 6 2009 to have the animal examined by attending veterinarian. On June 2 2009, during a follow-up focused inspection on this dog the licensee’s wife stated that they had 'got rid of the dog'. USDA inspector Randy Coleman asked if the dog had been put down and the licensee’s wife stated that it had. When asked which veterinarian had euthanized the dog, the licensee’s wife stated that the licensee had done it himself. When asked how the licensee euthanized the dog, the licensee’s wife stated that the licensee shot the dog with a gun.”

- USDA inspection of **Wayne Troyer**, 31-A-0248, Sugarcreek, Ohio, June 2009 (USDA license active through August 2013)

“A female miniature Poodle (#59) was observed holding her head at an odd angle and repeatedly licking her lips while nursing her litter of puppies. This female also had an abnormal amount of a dark, crusted substance on the right side of her face, ears, and under her eyes. The inspectors asked the applicant to pick up the dog so the condition of her teeth could be examined. When the dog’s lip was raised, to enable a better view of her teeth, it was noticed that the dog’s lower jaw moved freely with minimal pressure. When asked about the jaw, the applicant stated that the veterinarian had told them that the jaw was broken but didn’t 'really say anything about it.'”

- USDA inspection of **Abe Yoder/Y L A Kennels**, 31-A-0420, Baltic, Ohio, Oct. 2011 (USDA license active through Nov. 2012)

OKLAHOMA

“While conducting inspection, there was a deceased animal located in the sixth outdoor ground pen of the green trailer. There were two other animals housed in the same pen. It was indicated that the animal was old.”

- USDA inspection of **George Olmstead/ Spring Creek Kennels**, 73-A-1728, Laverne, Okla., Sept. 29, 2009 (License cancelled Aug. 2011)

“There are currently 251 adult dogs and 173 puppies located on the premise. There is only one employee who provides the care, cleaning, handling and husbandry practices of the animals. Additional employees may be required.”

- USDA inspection of **George Olmstead/ Spring Creek Kennels**, 73-A-1728, Laverne, Okla., Sept. 2009 (License cancelled Aug. 2011)

“There are currently 247 adult dogs and 66 puppies located on the premise. There is one employee who provides the care, cleaning, handling and husbandry practice of the animals.”

- USDA inspection of **George Olmstead/ Spring Creek Kennels**, 73-A-1728, Laverne, Okla., March 2010 (License cancelled Aug. 2011)

“Two very small puppies just born on 7/23/08 were dead in the enclosure. Licensee needs to establish and maintain adequate vet care and daily observation of the animals.”

- USDA inspection of **Troy Sheffield**, Lane, Okla., July 24, 2008 (License cancelled April 2009)

“Salt and pepper male schnauzer has left hind leg with bones exposed. Lower part of the leg is swollen. Old dead hair has wrapped around the leg below where the bones are exposed. Flesh is missing around the bones. Red raw flesh is exposed above the bones and below the bones on the lower portion of the foot. Dog has been in this condition for the past 7 days. Red raw flesh is exposed on each elbow of the front legs. Dog has been treated by licensee but not been to a vet for diagnosis and treatment ... Cocker 292 in the North enclosures has hair matted underneath the neck. Under the mats were an excessive amount of ticks. The skin was irritated and the dog had been scratching ... Cocker 292 has very long toenails. The nails are beginning to curl around and grow back into the pads of the feet.”

- USDA inspection of **Allen and Mary Yoder/Country Kennels**, 73-A-1958, Coalgate, Okla., July 2008 (USDA license active through Oct. 2013)

“Inside the block building housing 36 adult dog the urine and ammonia level was strong enough that it was burning my eyes while doing the inspection. There are open windows but they are not adequate enough to keep the ammonia levels to a point where the dogs are not having to inhale the smell and possibly do damage to the lungs and have upper respiratory infections.”

- USDA inspection of **Allen and Mary Yoder/Country Kennels**, 73-A-1958, Coalgate, Okla., Aug. 20, 2007 (USDA license active through Oct. 2013)

SOUTH DAKOTA

“At approximately 11:05 AM, 4 labs in the east corn crib were given water and then were observed all drinking water out of a metal gallon bucket. This indicated the 4 dogs were not being watered twice a day or as often as necessary. The owner was asked when he last watered the dogs and he stated, ‘last night.’ The animals drank the water bucket empty and the bucket was refilled and the animals still continue to all drink vigorously.”

- USDA inspection of **Lakeview Kennels, Inc.**, 46-A-0019, Parkston S.D., May 2010 (USDA license active through Aug. 2013)

TEXAS

“Inside the house where dogs and cats are kept, including the kitchen, has accumulations of stuff. There are dog feces all over the main rooms of the house.”

- USDA inspection of **Patricia Bingham**, 74-A-1284, Alvin Tex., May 2009 (USDA license active through May 2013)

VIRGINIA

“The inside runs had an excessive build up of feces and a strong odor. The owner indicated these areas were only cleaned once a week.”

- USDA inspection of **Phyllis White**, 52-A-0139, Nickelsville, Va., March 2009 (USDA license cancelled April 2011)

WYOMING

“The attending veterinarian was not notified by the licensee regarding two Pomeranians who suffered bite wounds inflicted by a cage mate and who died the following day, August 5, 2007. Also, a Pug died on June 1, 2007 after the owner had noticed abnormal tissue protruding from her vaginal area but the attending veterinarian was not notified by the licensee of any problems with this dog.”

- USDA inspection of **Sharon Curless/ Ruff Pine Kennel**, 83-A-0031, Pine Bluffs, Wyo., April 2008 (USDA license active through Feb. 2013)