

**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

The Horrible Hundred 2023

One hundred problem puppy mills and puppy sellers in the United States

The 2023 Horrible Hundred report lists 100 problem puppy breeders and dealers in the United States. The Humane Society of the United States publishes the report annually to warn consumers about common problems at puppy mills, and to promote enhanced laws and stronger humane law enforcement.

At least 240 puppy mills from prior Horrible Hundred reports have closed.



Missouri inspectors found an emaciated, nursing dog named Lindy Lou at Ellen Roberts/ Rocky Top K-9s, a puppy mill that is appearing in our report for the eighth time. *Photo by Missouri Department of Agriculture, 2022*

After we published our prior report, some dealers listed closed voluntarily, while some have been charged with animal cruelty or neglect. Samuel Roman of Tree of Life Kennels in Kansas [was charged](#) with animal cruelty and 68 dogs were rescued from the property; the puppy mill is now closed. In addition, Henry Sommers, owner of Happy Puppys [SIC] in Iowa, a six-time repeat offender, closed down in January 2023; he was charged with animal neglect. Another breeder, Deanna Brundage in Missouri, was [fined \\$12,000](#) by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and banned for life from obtaining a federal license. In March 2023, the Missouri Attorney General obtained a [consent judgment](#) against Corey Mincey of Puppy Love Kennel for continuing to violate breeder standards. Previously, Mincey had been found in contempt and fined. Mincey's former breeding dogs have been removed and rehomed. Others that closed included [Flying High Aussies in Nebraska](#); the owner reportedly [served jail time](#) for various offenses.

ABOUT THIS YEAR'S REPORT

- For the 11th year in a row, Missouri has the highest number of dealers in the report (31). Missouri is followed by Iowa (13), Ohio (13), Pennsylvania (eight) and Kansas and New York (six each).
- At least 12 of the dealers in this report have sold to Petland, the only national chain of pet stores left in the United States that still sells puppies.
- Readers can [view documents here](#) to see further details on each dealer, such as recent federal or state inspection reports and/or photographs.
- Our [Methodology section](#) [describes](#) how we select dealers for inclusion in the report, followed by how we define a puppy mill and how to find puppies from responsible sources.

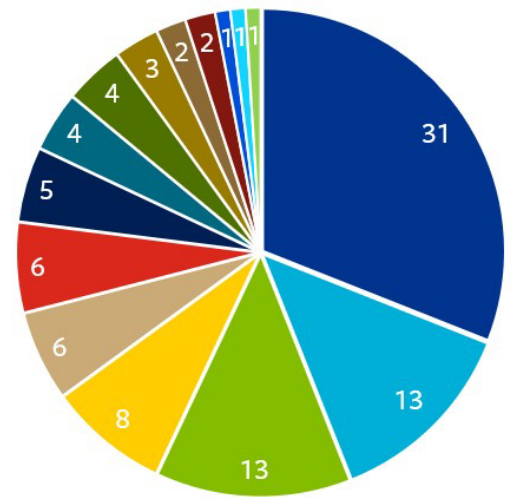
Since we published our first report in 2013, at least 1,650 dogs have been rescued from past Horrible Hundred dealers that closed. But while many puppy mills have shut down, some that have been in the report five, six or even more times remain in business despite recurring and egregious animal care violations. The HSUS urges authorities to take stronger action against repeat offenders and to enact tougher policies to prevent poor conditions from escalating into animal cruelty.

About half of the dealers in this report are USDA-licensed. The USDA is the only agency that has the authority to regulate pet breeders in all 50 states under the Animal Welfare Act, but only if the breeders have five or more breeding females and sell to pet stores, brokers or online, sight-unseen. The AWA's standards are low, and enforcement continues to be lax, with USDA rarely shutting down or even fining problem breeders. USDA does not inspect breeders at all if they sell only to the public and in person.

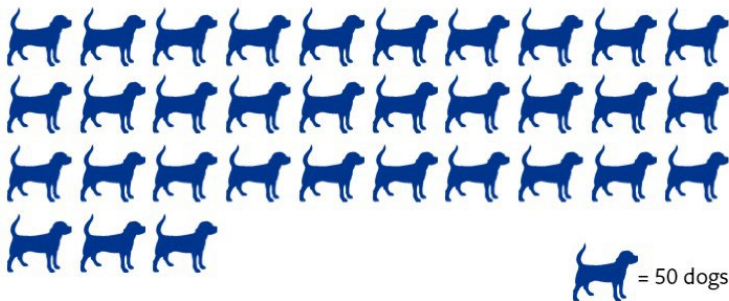
In addition to the AWA, [some state](#) laws apply to commercial breeders. In states that do inspect kennels, such as Missouri and Ohio, we found that some puppy mills that had numerous state violations had not been cited for any USDA violations over the same time period, which provides a useful insight into the many inhumane conditions that are overlooked by USDA inspectors. On the other hand, many states have no breeder regulations at all, and some have weak laws that are rarely enforced. States with insufficient laws often have fewer puppy mills in the report because there are scant records available for our researchers to review.

States featured in this year's report

- Missouri
- Ohio
- Iowa
- Pennsylvania
- Kansas
- New York
- Wisconsin
- Texas
- Nebraska
- Georgia
- Indiana
- Arkansas
- Oklahoma
- Illinois
- Virginia



~1,650 dogs rescued
from Horrible Hundred breeders who closed



The Horrible Hundred is not a list of the worst dog breeders in the country, since many breeders are never inspected, and documentation of their conditions may not be available.

The public can do its part to stop supporting puppy mills like the ones in this report by choosing adoption first when getting a pet, or buying only from carefully-screened breeders they meet in person.

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A French bulldog puppy at Harry and Wanda Bonham's kennel in Missouri was one of three dogs inspectors found with obvious health issues. The Bonhams have been linked to Petland. *Photo by Missouri Department of Agriculture, 2022*

ARKANSAS

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

[Elisa Brandvik, Ozark, Arkansas: USDA issued an official warning; violations included a very thin dog, moldy feces, maggots and poor housing.](#) Brandvik failed several USDA inspections in the second half of 2022 and another in early 2023. She was issued an official warning in September 2022. Problems found by USDA inspectors included filthy conditions with maggots, accumulations of moldy feces, inadequate shelter, some puppies who had no water, and a “noticeably thin” dog who wasn’t getting enough to eat. The massive facility had more than 180 dogs and puppies at a recent inspection. As far back as 2016, a media report [linked Brandvik](#) to an underweight puppy in a Nevada Petland store. USDA #71-A-1423.

[Frank Foster, Hindsville, Arkansas: Inspectors found dangerous conditions, inadequate veterinary care and a strong odor that caused inspectors’ eyes to burn.](#) USDA inspectors cited Frank Foster for a number of violations between 2022 and early 2023, including issues with poor sanitation, a strong odor that caused inspectors’ eyes to burn, dangerous conditions that could hurt the dogs, and failing to give prescribed antibiotics to dogs who needed them. Former USDA #71-A-1408.

GEORGIA

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

[Shaqwan Hagans/Good Life Luxury Kennel, Covington, Georgia: License denied due to extremely thin dogs, unacceptable conditions; owner allegedly had multiple citations for animal cruelty, but still apparently offers puppies via Instagram.](#) Georgia officials recently declined to give a license to Good Life Luxury Kennel due to extremely poor conditions and thin dogs, state records show. According to the reports, the owner told the Georgia Department of Agriculture in November that he was not currently breeding dogs. But HSUS researchers found that a kennel bearing the same name and general location still has puppies available [on Instagram](#) as of May 15, 2023, with hashtags indicating #worldwideshipping. The HSUS notified Georgia's Department of Agriculture. GA #36118802 (Not officially licensed due to failing the pre-license inspection).

[Stephen Thurmond/Little Heart's Kennel, Comer, Georgia: State inspectors found "a noticeable foul odor" and "pests crawling throughout the building;" instructed breeder not to keep dogs permanently in portable wire crates.](#) State inspectors visited Little Heart's Kennel at least nine times between July 2022 and February 2023, and found issues every time. Six of the visits resulted in no access, with the inspectors being unable to check on the dogs at all. In July, inspectors found a foul odor, rusty cages, cages with no solid resting surface for the dogs, and "pests crawling throughout the building as well as in and around the animal enclosures." Inspectors told the breeder not to use portable wire crates as permanent housing for the dogs. In October, some of the issues remained, and some of the dogs did not have acceptable protection from the weather. Former GA #36111790, Current GA #3700107.

[Donna Vanderzwag/Byron Christian Academy LLC, Byron, Georgia: Some puppies were on bare wire with no water or food; state officials classified facility as "high priority" due to "constant violations."](#) In November 2022, state officials found numerous issues at Byron Christian Academy's puppy breeding operation. There were some puppies without food and water in a crate that was too crowded, and they were found yelping on a back porch, where the owner had previously been told not to keep animals. State inspectors noted, "this establishment has a HIGH priority setting due to the constant violations (many of them repeat violations) that owner acquires on just about every inspection." Former GA #36104424.

ILLINOIS

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details.

[Raymond Schlabach/Dreamy Puppy LLC, Campbell Hill, Illinois: Inspector found a pug with a large swelling and puncture wounds; several dogs had red, inflamed or scabby ears; breeder sold to Petland stores.](#) In March 2023, USDA inspectors found several ailing dogs at Dreamy Puppy, including a pug with puncture wounds and a large swelling that had a hard mass in it; the licensee claimed they had given the dog a shot of penicillin, but the inspector noted that the dog had signs of an abscess and should have been diagnosed and treated by a veterinarian. In addition, the same dog and two other dogs had ears that were red, inflamed and/or swollen. One of the dogs, a French bulldog, also had "scabs and dry flakey skin throughout both ears," and the ears were thickened and swollen. The breeder has sold to Petland stores. USDA #33-A-0605; IL #022-232.

INDIANA

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Daniel K. and Anna Mae Graber, Odon, Indiana: [USDA inspector found several dogs needing treatment for issues such as scabs, swollen ears and/or hair loss.](#) In October 2022, USDA inspectors found at least three dogs in need of veterinary treatment at the Grabers' breeding facility; all three had scabs and signs of ear infections; one also had patches of missing fur on the ears. USDA also noted that all the dogs on site were overdue for parasite treatment and veterinary examinations. The facility did pass a subsequent inspection. USDA #32-A-0507, IN #CB000569.

Roger Miller, Montgomery, Indiana: [USDA found three dogs in need of veterinary care for issues such as red and irritated ears.](#) During a January 2023 inspection, USDA inspectors found at least three dogs in need of ear treatment. The dogs had some brownish "greasy material in one or both ears," along with redness and irritation. One of the dogs had noticeable thickening of her inner and outer ear flaps, and one dog had scabs in her ear. There were signs that some of the dogs had been scratching at their ears, but the licensee said they had not noticed their condition. The USDA had previously attempted to visit the kennel in March 2022, but inspectors were not given access, which is a violation. Miller has been [identified](#) by Petland as one of their breeders. Miller did pass a subsequent inspection. USDA #32-A-0606.

IOWA

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Ricky (Ricki) and Mary Brodersen/Mystical (Cockers), Kiron, Iowa: [More than 10 years after former American Kennel Club breeder was sentenced to jail time, she is still operating; state officials found recent violations, including inadequate personnel to care for dogs, insufficient water, dogs with expired vaccines, and more.](#) As recently as October 2022, state officials continued to find many animal care issues at the Brodersen kennel, which has a long and troubling history. As noted in our 2021 report, owner Mary Brodersen was charged with animal neglect in 2012 after a raid on her previous puppy mill resulted in the confiscation of 88 animals, and five dogs were found dead. Brodersen was sentenced to jail time that same year. As of late 2022, inspectors were still finding multiple animal care deficiencies. IA #11634. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Natalie Connally/Kutabays, Pella, Iowa: [Inspectors found some dogs with no water or only contaminated water, and some with contaminated food and inadequate shelter.](#) On January 24, 2023, USDA inspectors found seven different violations at Kutabays, including some dogs with no water or only contaminated water, some dogs whose food was contaminated with wood shavings, dogs in a barn without adequate shelter, and no proof of vaccinations for the dogs, among other issues. Prior issues documented at the kennel included "no access" violations in 2023, 2020 (repeat), 2018 and 2017. USDA #42-A-1566, IA #8875.

Helene Hamrick/Wolf Point Kennel, Ackworth, Iowa: [A heavily matted dog had thick, solid clumps of hair, some adhered against the skin; another dog had feces attached to matted hair; USDA has found concerns off and on for about a decade.](#) During a March 2023 visit, USDA inspectors found six different violations at Hamrick's kennel, many of which impacted more than one dog. The issues included dirty and unsafe conditions, two badly matted dogs and veterinary care deficiencies. One of the matted dogs had "clumps of dried feces

[attached] to the matted hair.” In addition, a bottle of an antibiotic drug was found in a cabinet at room temperature, which could lead to ineffective treatment of sick animals. Issues have been found at the kennel off and on for about 10 years. Former USDA # 42-A-0124, IA #149. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SIXTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Bruce Hooyer/JKLM Farm aka Shaggy Hill Farm, Sioux Center, Iowa: State inspectors found 125 dogs with only two caretakers; poor sanitation; kennel has had recurring issues since at least 2017. In March 2023, state inspectors found a number of problems at JKLM Farm and rated it noncompliant. Inspectors noted concerns about the number of dogs at the kennel, stating it “is a tremendous amount of work for two people” to take care of 125 dogs, and that “the number of dogs has increased.” Some of the dogs were matted or missing their vaccines. Similar issues have been noted repeatedly at the kennel for at least five years. Issues noted in earlier years included several dogs and puppies who died at the operation between 2017 and 2018. IA #11102. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FIFTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

David Horning, Ionia, Iowa: USDA inspector found a dead puppy, an undersized puppy with a head tremor and sores, and other dogs with veterinary issues; one dog who was hastily trimmed during inspection was left with a large, open wound. USDA inspectors who visited Horning’s kennel in February 2023 found a number of dogs in need of veterinary care, plus a dead puppy whom the breeder said he hadn’t even noticed. In addition to the dead puppy, another puppy was found in poor condition; she was much smaller than her littermate and had “a very large head, a continuous head tremor, open, red, raw sores on her hind paws, and was not walking nearly as well as her litter mate.” Several other dogs were found in poor condition, and when the licensee shaved a matted dog in front of the inspector, he cut the dog’s face and caused a large, open wound. The USDA issued an official warning to Horning in April 2023. Additional violations were found during a state inspection. Horning recently cancelled his USDA license, but as of May 2023, he still appears to be licensed by the state and could apply for a new USDA license at any time. He had more than 110 dogs at a recent state inspection. Former USDA #42-A-1429, IA #1295. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Steve Kruse/Stonehenge Kennel, West Point, Iowa: More than 125 dogs have been found sick or injured since 2015; at least 199 dogs were euthanized. Recent violations included dogs with bloody wounds and some who could barely walk; USDA has failed to revoke the license. Stonehenge Kennel has appeared in five of our prior Horrible Hundred reports, yet conditions remain unacceptable, with more than 125 dogs found in need of veterinary care in recent years. As recently as March 2023, USDA found multiple dogs suffering from seemingly painful illnesses or injuries at Kruse’s kennel. Recent issues have included dogs with bloody wounds, hair loss, crusty eyes or ears, lameness, swollen areas and other unacceptable conditions. Nearly identical violations have been documented at the massive puppy mill again and again for almost decade.

In February 2023, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals revealed a document showing that [199 dogs were killed](#) at the facility in one day in 2021. Kruse had connections to Daniel Gingerich, the horrific puppy mill operator on whose property dogs were found emaciated and deceased in 2021; the 199 dogs killed were said to be dogs who had been transferred from Kruse to Gingerich and then back again. Kruse’s massive puppy mill had more than 800 dogs during some recent inspections.

On March 30, 2023, the USDA suspended Kruse’s license for 21 days due to issues with sick, bleeding and injured dogs. But as of May 15, 2023, the suspension appeared to be lifted, and Kruse was still listed as an actively licensed breeder on the USDA’s website. Kruse has been suspended in the past with no lasting repercussions.

In April 2023, the HSUS sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Justice urging them to work with the USDA to permanently revoke Kruse's license, to ensure his dogs are transferred to safe placement partners, and to finally put an end to the long-term suffering of hundreds of dogs at Stonehenge Kennel. USDA #42-B-0182, IA #4576. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SIXTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**



Inspectors found more than 125 ill or injured dogs at Steve Kruse's Stonehenge Kennel between 2015 and 2023. *Photo by United States Department of Agriculture, 2022*

Heath Meyers/Century Farm Puppies, Grundy Center, Iowa: [USDA questioned breeder about a dog seen "hopping around" due to a foot injury, a dog with so much debris in his ears that his ear canals could not be seen, the treatment of a bichon with an open wound, matted dogs, and other humane care concerns; massive facility had more than 350 dogs.](#) The USDA gave Meyers an official warning in April 2023 for failing to maintain an adequate veterinary care program, after finding several dogs in need of attention for various ailments. Some of the ailing dogs mentioned in a March 1, 2023 USDA inspection report included a dog seen "hopping around" due to a wounded foot, with reddened tissue exposed, another who was seen shaking his head repeatedly

and whose ears were so full of brownish material that the inspectors couldn't see inside the ear canal, some dogs with badly matted hair and some dogs with signs of advanced dental disease. In addition, the USDA questioned the breeder about 58 dogs who were listed on the inventory but were missing from the kennel, and the care of another dog who had been receiving questionable treatment for an open wound since January. Inspectors also found safety and sanitation problems at the massive facility, which had more than 350 dogs and puppies during the March inspection. USDA #42-A-1672, IA #8739.

Joel Paris/Paris Puppies Paradise, Ogden, Iowa: [Failed three state inspections due to issues such as strong odors and filthy conditions; some dogs had patches of hair loss; breeder was told to get "immediate veterinary care" but failed to take dogs to a veterinarian.](#) State inspectors visited Paris Puppies Paradise at least eight times between August 2022 and April 2023. Several of the visits were due to a complaint. Out of the eight visits, inspectors were only given access to the property three times. During those visits they found issues such as foul odors and filthy conditions. In January 2023, they found two dogs with patches of hair loss, one of whom was in such poor condition that inspectors said they "recommended immediate veterinary care for this dog." In April 2023, the kennel failed a re-inspection due to similar issues with poor sanitation, and even though the visit had been pre-scheduled, the owner was apparently still cleaning when inspectors arrived, and the facility was still grimy. In addition, the two dogs with hair loss who had been noticed earlier in the year had not been taken to a veterinarian, and an additional dog was observed with hair loss, while another was "observed with serious matting." Inspectors also noted that 15 adult dogs were missing from the kennel, and there was no documentation of what had happened to them. IA #10276.

Tom and Carla Steffensmeier/T&C Steffensmeier Kennels aka Top Notch Puppies, West Point, Iowa: [USDA found a dog with a swollen, red paw, dog food that was crawling with insects, and a dog whose foot was](#)

[entrapped in the gridded flooring and who could not walk until the foot was pushed out; facility sold to Petland stores.](#) During a March 2023 inspection, USDA inspectors found a long list of troubling conditions at the Steffensmeier kennel, including a dog with an injured paw, and another dog whose foot was “stuck in the openings of the raised floor.” The latter dog was unable to release the foot on their own, and was seen pivoting their body around the stuck leg, trying to get loose. The inspector noted that the licensee had to push the dog’s foot out of the opening before the dog was able to walk again. The inspector also documented many other unsafe and dirty conditions, including rodent feces in some areas of the kennel, bugs crawling on many of the dogs’ food, an increased ammonia (waste odor) level in one area, and dangerous conditions such as sharp points and heat lamps that were close enough for the dogs to touch. The facility has sold numerous shipments of puppies to Petland stores. USDA #42-A-1368, IA #9309.

[Scott Swanson/S & J Kennel, Ollie, Iowa: USDA inspectors found 25 violations between Fall 2021 and March 2023; issues included two French bulldogs with significant, bloody wounds, poor sanitation, and pest problems.](#) In March 2023, USDA inspectors found two badly injured French bulldogs at S & J Kennel. One dog, a male, had a foot that was swollen and missing a “large section of hair, skin and underlying tissues.” Part of his paw pad had been “torn off,” blood was coating the hair under the foot, and the dog also had “several large injuries” along the spine, including a section of skin that was hanging off, and areas that were hairless or crusted over. In addition, a female French bulldog also had severe, bloody wounds. The licensee admitted that the two dogs had fought about three weeks before the inspection. Inspectors noted that they had not been taken to a veterinarian despite the obvious severity of the injuries. Inspectors have documented many other issues at S & J Kennel for at least three years in a row, including issues with unclean and unsafe conditions, pests, and missing veterinary records. USDA #42-A-1478, IA #10596.

[Dennis and Donna Van Wyk/Prairie Lane Kennel, New Sharon, Iowa: Dog and puppies could not move around without walking in caked feces; inspectors found a dead mouse and rodent droppings; problems stretch back to at least 2015.](#) Both the state of Iowa and the USDA documented numerous violations at Prairie Lane Kennel as recently as January 2023, including filthy and feces-filled conditions. Inspectors have found additional severe issues off and on since 2015, including violations for dogs with signs of eye disease, dental disease, or open wounds, and a failure to let inspectors in to view the kennel (USDA). USDA #42-A-0331, IA #10071. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FOURTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

[Anita Wikstrom/Unforgettable Schnauzers, Ames, Iowa: State inspectors found dirt, grime, and clutter throughout the facility; similar issues have been recurring for years.](#) In March and April 2023, state inspectors once again found dirty and cluttered conditions at Unforgettable Schnauzers, an issue the owner had been repeatedly warned about over a period of several years. Inspectors noted there was a noticeable “build-up of grime and clutter throughout the facility, including dirt, hair, dirty bedding, and old food.” During at least two of the attempts to re-inspect the kennel in April 2023, the owner did not make the kennel available for inspection, leaving concerns about the current condition of the dogs. These two attempted inspections were followed by a failed inspection, and finally one compliant inspection. IA #1475. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FOURTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

[Loren Yoder/Sunset Valley Farm, Riverside, Iowa: Inspectors found underweight dogs, including one puppy so thin they warned the condition “could result in the death of the animal,” blood on the whelping room floor, injured dogs and more; undercover video found dogs outside with only wood hutches for shelter.](#) Both state and federal inspectors found numerous severe violations at Sunset Valley Farm in recent months. A USDA inspector in September 2022 found three underweight dogs, including two nursing mothers, and a puppy who was so thin that the inspector noted the condition “could result in the death of the animal” if not addressed, among many other issues. The USDA later gave Yoder an official warning. As of April 2023, Yoder had dropped his USDA license, but was still licensed by the state. State inspectors found several dogs with injuries, as well as “blood on [the] floor” and a “significant odor” in the whelping room building, and dogs exposed to the cold

without enough bedding to keep them warm. State inspectors also warned Yoder to “ensure [the] water does not freeze during cold snaps.” There were more than 130 dogs on the property during a recent state inspection.

Undercover HSUS footage taken in March 2023 revealed large numbers of dogs at Sunset Valley Farm who were outside with only wooden structures for shelter; while not illegal, the conditions appeared spartan, and barely enough to protect dogs from the elements. Former USDA #42-A-1541, IA #10700. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

KANSAS

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Lynda Denson/Kansas Mini Havanese, Olpe, Kansas: Failed inspection due to “strong odor of animal waste” and dirty conditions. In October 2022, state inspectors visited Kansas Mini Havanese due to a complaint about poor ventilation and unacceptable amounts of urine and feces, and deemed the complaint to be founded. They noted that both of the inspectors were affected “by the strong odor of animal waste,” and that a number of areas were dirty. In addition, some of the dog beds were covered in excreta, and the dogs were exposed to grated flooring that put their paws at risk of injury due to the apparent size of the gaps. KS #CB0015UR.

Linda Kent/Eclipses Kennel, Elgin, Kansas: Recurring issues with dirty conditions and grime. USDA found no records available on any of the puppies. State inspectors found six different violations at Eclipses Kennel in November 2022, and many of them were similar to the violations that the kennel had already been warned about the year before, including a build-up of grime, dirt and excreta, and areas that were chewed or had holes. The USDA also inspects the kennel and noted in June 2022 that the facility had no records available during the inspection “for the 23 puppies present in the kennel.” When the USDA inspected again in April 2023, they found another issue with records on the puppies, noting that “there was no official identification for 25 puppies in the whelping building.” Identifying puppies is important for keeping track of their medical history and to track their movement upon sale. There were 72 dogs and puppies on the premises at the time of the 2023 inspection. USDA #48-A-2171, KS #CB0014HJ. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Krista LaRocque/Kansas Doodles, Bazine, Kansas: Inspectors found a strong smell, piles of feces and dirty and dusty conditions. Kansas state inspectors investigating a complaint “about the welfare and living conditions of the dogs” at Kansas Doodles in June 2022 deemed the complaint founded due to a strong odor, piles of feces, dirt, hair, dust and cobwebs in the dog buildings, and many other issues, according to state records. The facility offers dogs for sale [online](#). KS #CB002329.

Mary Moore/D & M Kennel, Uniontown, Kansas: Eight new violations since prior Horrible Hundred report was published, including lack of recent veterinary care, at facility with more than 260 dogs. Since appearing in our 2022 Horrible Hundred report, D & M Kennel incurred at least five more USDA violations in mid-2022 and three more in January 2023. At the time of the 2023 inspection, the facility had 264 dogs, and none of the adult dogs had had regularly scheduled veterinary examinations since 2021. Prior issues at the kennel included the presence of a dead puppy; the breeder admitting to tossing dead puppies into a field (2021 state inspection). USDA also noted “teachable moment” violations at the kennel in 2021, 2020, 2019 and 2018. USDA #48-A-1153, KS #CB00098Q. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Kristal A. Stevens/Creekwell Shepherds, Rose Hill, Kansas: German shepherd with hair loss on the face, neck, chest and front legs had “been like this for almost [a] year;” some dogs appeared to have fly strike on their ears; breeder advertises on AKC Marketplace. State inspectors who visited Creekwell Shepherds in June 2022

found eight different violations, including a dog with very noticeable hair loss who had been in that condition for about a year. Inspectors also noticed excessive flies, with some of the dogs having salve on their ears for flystrike, among other issues. The breeder advertises on [AKC Marketplace](#). KS #CB0012LL.

Brenda White/B & B Kennel, Neodesha, Kansas: Inspectors found excessive odor and accumulations of feces, hair, dirt and grime. In November 2022, the state charged Brenda White a \$100 reinspection fee after her kennel failed an inspection. At the failed inspection, Kansas inspectors had noted a strong odor, excessive feces, and other unsanitary conditions at B & B Kennel. The USDA did not cite White for any violations in 2022, but found housing issues in 2021, 2019, and 2017. USDA #48-A-2090, KS #CB000C8C.

MISSOURI

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Steve and Sharon Allmon/S&S Kennel, Ava, Missouri: A boxer was very thin with prominent ribs and hips, another had a neck wound; some dogs were having liquid stools. Missouri state inspectors found a number of serious concerns during at least two pre-license inspections of S&S Kennel in early 2023. The issues included a poodle with a wound on her neck, a boxer who was very thin with his ribs and hip bones showing, several dogs with liquid stools, no proof of a veterinary visit to the kennel since 2021, and a bottle of oxytocin that had expired in 1997. As of April 2023, it is unclear if the Allmons passed the final inspection to obtain a license, but it appears the state issued them a provisional license number. MO #AC003JU0.

Dorothy Audsley/Len Dee Kennels, Carrollton, Missouri: More than 30 state violations in less than a year; fined three times; seven dogs died under unexplained circumstances; sold puppies to Petland. State inspectors found dozens of violations during at least four state inspections of Len Dee Kennels between June 2022 and early 2023, and fined the facility at least three times. Inspectors also had concerns about some dogs who had died or were euthanized under unexplained circumstances. The owner was issued two warning letters from the state for repeat violations. Despite the many serious issues found by state inspectors, USDA did not cite Audsley for any violations over the same time period. Len Dee Kennels has sold puppies to Petland. Former USDA #43-A-4295. Current USDA #43-A-6789, former MO #AC00099X.

Duane Barnett/Barnett's Incredible Puppies, Rocky Comfort, Missouri: Received multiple warning letters from the state for repeated violations; dodged 25 attempted inspections between 2021 and 2022. State inspectors issued at least two official warning letters to Barnett's Incredible Puppies in late 2022, including one for recording keeping issues, and one for some dogs missing rabies vaccinations. State officials also noted that the licensee was repeatedly unavailable for inspections. A pattern of dodged inspections is one that Barnett had been warned about in the past; he received a warning letter in 2021 for dodging 14 state inspections, and also dodged 10 more state inspections in late 2021 and 2022, as well as missing two USDA inspections in 2021, before dropping his USDA license. In 2021 and 2022, Barnett was also questioned by state inspectors about multiple dogs who had died. Former USDA #43-A-6363, MO #AC000EML. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Deborah Bertrand/DEBCO, Stover, Missouri: Dogs were in the cold with no nesting material to keep them warm; some had ice in their water. In October 2022, state inspectors found dogs at DEBCO who were in 38-degree weather and had no bedding to help conserve their body heat. Many had water buckets with ice floating in them. Some of the cages were stacked and had wire strand flooring, which state rules prohibit. None of the dogs had been examined by a veterinarian in more than a year. DEBCO received a warning letter from the state in December 2022 for dogs who were missing vaccines. DEBCO also had some USDA violations in late 2022 for

obtaining dogs from unlicensed dealers without ensuring that the dealers were exempt, as well as housing and cleaning issues. DEBCO has been known to advertise [on Puppies.com](https://www.puppies.com). USDA #43-B-3801, MO #AC00380T.

Melissa Bilbruck/Monkey Moms Bostons, Bates City, Missouri: [Dogs were found shivering in the cold; kennels had excessive feces; insufficient veterinary care.](#) State inspectors found a number of problems at Monkey Moms Bostons in December 2022, including some dogs who were seen shivering in the cold, excessive feces, and inadequate veterinary care, with some medications kept for use on the dogs that had expired as long ago as 2018 and 2016. In addition, the USDA sent Bilbruck an official warning in July 2022 for operating without a federal license. MO #AC000C2Z.

Harry and Wanda Bonham, Pottersville, Missouri: [Inspectors found three ailing French bulldogs, including an undersized puppy with bulging eyes who had not been taken to a veterinarian; breeder linked to Petland.](#) A state inspector found a very small French bulldog puppy at the Bonhams' kennel in June 2022. Photographs taken that day show a tiny puppy with bulging, cloudy eyes that are also reddish and look abnormal. Inspectors wrote that the puppy "was noted to have bulbous, cloudy eyes and to be of smaller size than its littermates." The puppy had not been taken to a veterinarian. When inspectors returned to the kennel in August 2022, they found two more French bulldogs with visible issues—one with "scabbed, crusty areas on her face," and another with bilateral otitis, an ear condition that can be painful. The state cited the Bonhams for all three issues. The USDA also inspects the kennel but did not note any violations during the same time period. The Bonhams had almost 120 dogs at a recent USDA inspection. The Bonhams have [been linked](#) to Petland, the largest chain of puppy-selling stores in the country. USDA #43-A-4436, MO #AC0000TX.

Dawn Boyles/ATBAY Kennels, Chula, Missouri: [State inspectors found recurring issues with badly matted dogs, dogs with overgrown nails and excessive feces.](#) In September 2022, Boyles received a warning letter after state officials found repeat violations at her kennel. During at least four different inspections that year, inspectors found issues that included dogs so badly matted that "mud balls" were starting to form on the matted areas, excessive feces, and dogs without enough space or shelter from the weather. Boyles also had some similar violations in prior years. Former USDA #43-T-0253, Current USDA #43-T-0280, MO #AC0037HY. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Charles A. Breshears/Happy Acres Puppy Farm, Halfway, Missouri: [Some puppies had no water in summer; one dog had lesions on two of his feet; repeated issues with dogs missing from facility with no explanation.](#) State inspectors found a number of issues at Happy Acres Puppy Farm in August 2022 and again in January 2023. In August, some puppies had no water, and a bulldog had several lesions on his two front feet, among other issues. During both visits, a number of dogs were missing from the facility, and the breeder could not fully explain what had happened to them. The state issued a warning letter for the repeat violation in January 2023. MO #AC001SNW.

Marty Clinton/Twin Springs Kennel, Vanzant, Missouri: [USDA inspector found an "almost nonresponsive" puppy in "very poor condition" who had not been taken to a veterinarian.](#) Clinton received an official warning from USDA in January 2023 for failing to provide adequate veterinary care. During a December 2022 visit, inspectors found an ailing Chihuahua puppy who was "almost nonresponsive" and only about half the size of his littermates; the USDA gave the breeder a Direct violation for the issue. A Direct violation is defined as "having a serious or severe adverse effect on the health and well-being of the animal" at the time of inspection. Yet the USDA did not confiscate the ailing puppy, and it is unknown if he survived. USDA inspectors also found two poodles who were so badly matted that their hair was twisted and wet. The facility had almost 200 dogs at the time. Missouri inspectors also found several dogs in need of care at the kennel, including one dog whose nails were so long that they were curving towards the pads of her paws and she was limping. The facility passed some

of its inspections, but concerns remain about its ability to stay in compliance. USDA #43-A-6452, MO #AC002RBD.

Lola Davis/Rose Valley Kennel, Excelsior Springs, Missouri: Failed at least five inspections in less than 12 months; inspectors found a strong odor and poor conditions, and issued fines. Between March 2022 and January 2023, Rose Valley Kennel had at least five noncompliant state inspections, and received two warning letters and two \$100 reinspection fees. Issues included a dog with an obvious prolapse who had not yet been taken to a veterinarian, dodged or refused inspections, and a number of dogs found living in cramped, cold and smelly conditions. MO #AC000L9L.

Chris Gingerich/Country Side Kennel, Gallatin, Missouri: Lethargic, limping poodle with a swollen muzzle had been “debarked,” had not been taken to a veterinarian. During a “prelicense” state inspection on September 6, 2022, inspectors found a poodle at Country Side Kennel who seemed to be in grave condition. The inspector wrote that she “was observed to have a swollen muzzle, limping on her right front leg, wobbly/unsteady on all 4 legs, and lethargic. The dog was debarked on 08/08/2022. The licensee spoke with Dr. Harland Sprouse [veterinarian] and he had the licensee start giving the dog Amoxicillin capsules. However, there is no documentation of this consult or the prescribed treatment.” After receiving the violation, records state that the licensee took the dog to the veterinarian, but there is no mention of whether she survived. USDA #43-A-6125, MO #AC003JXU.



Puppies at Goedeke’s Great Danes in Carrollton, Missouri had dead flies in their water. *Photo by Missouri Department of Agriculture, 2022.*

Amy Goedeke/Goedeke’s Great Danes, Carrollton, Missouri: Inspectors had questions about multiple puppies who died; numerous dogs were missing from the kennel without explanation; received fine and warning from the state. Goedeke’s Great Danes failed at least four different state inspections in 2022 and was cited three times for having puppies who died without a recorded date and/ or explanation. In addition, more than once, inspectors found some dogs without enough shelter from the weather. During one inspection, there was an excessive fly population, and some of the puppies had numerous dead flies in their water bowl. In October 2022, inspectors noted that the breeder had 101 dogs listed in her inventory, but “only 86 animals were accounted for during the inspection,” indicating more dogs may have died or been lost or sold without adequate explanations. The breeder received a fine (reinspection fee) and official warning letter from the state. MO #AC000P4J.

Luis Gonzalez/Sunrise Puppies, Milan, Missouri: A puppy was “lethargic and cold to the touch,” another dog was underweight with his ribs and spine showing; massive facility had over 500 dogs. State records show that Sunrise Puppies failed two prelicense inspections in August 2022, and the operation was only approved for a license on the third try. Pre-license records indicate Gonzalez received 520 dogs from a breeder named Kandy Hale in July 2022; Hale’s USDA license was cancelled in August and she was listed in a prior Horrible Hundred report. It is unclear what happened to some of the dogs, because Gonzalez was not yet licensed to sell them

when the 520 dogs arrived in July, yet only 487 dogs were on the property in August. Other issues noted included dirty and crowded conditions, an underweight dog with prominent ribs and spine, and a lethargic, cold puppy who had not been treated by a veterinarian. USDA #43-A-6705, MO #AC003EX9.

Beverly Hargis/Hargis' Sunshines Kennel, Hallsville, Missouri: USDA found dangerous conditions and an insect infestation at facility where violations have recurred for more than a decade. During an October 2022 inspection, USDA inspectors cited Hargis for safety hazards that could injure the dogs and excessive insects in the kennel. Hargis has been in four prior Horrible Hundred reports for similar issues, as well as violations for excessive feces, an odor in the kennel, and injured dogs. Hargis received an official warning from USDA as far back as 2012. USDA #43-A-0209, MO #AC000Q2J. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FIFTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Brandon and Tina Hough/Hough's Kennel, Osceola, Missouri: Inspectors had questions about a puppy who died; a dog had less than one-fourth of the required space; violation for mother and puppies housed on elevated floor that could hurt their feet; breeder sold to Petland and other pet stores. State inspectors found issues at Hough's Kennel as recently as June and September 2022. The issues included a repeat violation for unsafe flooring, including keeping a mother dog and puppies on elevated, non-solid flooring that could entrap their feet. Hough apparently tried to appeal some of the violations, including the issue of dogs with no solid resting area. The Missouri Department of Agriculture responded in a letter in July 2022: "our program will not be removing any violations for lack of solid resting surfaces. This requirement has been cited in the past, appealed in the past, and upheld in the past." Other violations that the agency refused to remove from the record included a dog found in a barn in a cage that gave him only 5.25 square feet of space (state rules require a dog of his size to have 25 square feet of space) and questions about documenting a puppy who died. Hough's Kennel has sold puppies to Petland and other pet stores; Brandon and Tina Hough have held at least four different licenses with USDA since 2003. Former USDA #43-B-3601. Current USDA #43-A-6758, MO #AC000AJ9.

Sandra Kozlowski/Sho-Me Labradors, Saint James, Missouri: Breeder who was previously sued by the state for egregious conditions, and who surrendered more than 80 dogs a few years ago, was found once again keeping large numbers of dogs in grim conditions and operating without a license. Even after Kozlowski was sued by the state and forced to surrender more than 80 dogs just a few years ago, somehow the state of Missouri has allowed horrific conditions to recur once again at Sho-Me Labradors. Kozlowski was again found keeping dogs in dismal and/or cramped conditions during several inspections in 2022 and early 2023, and was also operating under an expired license for over a year. In February 2023 alone, state inspectors found about 20 violations, including large-breed dogs kept in small wire "pet crates" or airline crates, an issue Kozlowski was warned about many times in the past, and the crated dogs did not have water. Missouri court documents show that, as of late March 2023, the state had [filed a motion](#) for civil contempt against Kozlowski, with a hearing scheduled for May 2023. MO #AC000GKG. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FIFTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Carolyn Lansdown/TLCS Kennel, Hartville, Missouri: USDA issued an official warning for lack of adequate veterinary care after finding "very thin" nursing mother dog with eight puppies and another pregnant dog who had signs of a severe eye injury. The USDA issued an official warning to TLCS Kennel in August 2022 after finding two dogs in unacceptable conditions and in obvious need of medical care; neither dog had been treated by a veterinarian for their conditions. In addition to the concerns about the mother dogs' health, the eight puppies with the very thin nursing mother were also at risk because a sickly nursing dog could be too weak or diseased to successfully raise healthy puppies. When inspectors returned in October 2022, they noted a repeat violation for veterinary care deficiencies due to multiple expired drugs. USDA #43-A-6162, MO #AC000TJ7.

Bobbie Lyell/Royal Heritage Kennel, LLC (Formerly: Oak Wood Farms), Hartville, Missouri: USDA found a very thin mother dog; her vertebrae were "easily seen." Some puppies were seen "crying with outstretched

necks” in extremely hot conditions; breeder sold puppies to Petland. The USDA gave Royal Heritage Kennel an official warning in October 2022 after more than 15 dogs and puppies were found in dangerously hot conditions in August 2022; many had been seen panting excessively and showing other signs of distress. USDA inspectors described some puppies as “crying with outstretched necks,” while other puppies were excessively panting with “mouths as wide open as possible.” In addition, at least one mother dog seemed noticeably underweight and had not been taken to a veterinarian for her condition. Lyell passed one inspection a few weeks later, but it was a focused inspection to follow up on only one dog. When the USDA went back to re-inspect in November 2022, January 2023 and March 2023, the owner failed three times in a row to make the kennel available for inspection, leading to grave concerns about the current welfare of the dogs. Lyell was warned about similar problems in prior years as well. The kennel has sold puppies to Petland. USDA #43-A-6613, MO #AC0031HP. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Charles and Debbi McGinnis/Monarchs Kennel, Bolivar, Missouri: Received official warning for failing to take badly injured dachshund to a veterinarian for about a month; dog was lethargic, extremely thin and had lesions and open sores. In February 2023, McGinnis received an official warning from USDA for a dog found in obvious need of veterinary care. The dog had apparently been attacked by another dog about a month before the breeder’s January inspection, yet had not been taken to a veterinarian; she was lethargic, “extremely thin,” and had lesions, sores and patches of missing fur. In April 2023, inspectors cited the kennel for a housing violation after some dogs were found in outdoor enclosures without enough protection from the sun. USDA #43-A-5563, MO #AC000D8F.

John J. Miller/TLC Kennels, Sturgeon, Missouri: Received state warning letter for repeated unsanitary conditions; breeder sold puppies to Petland. In November 2022, state inspectors sent a warning letter to TLC Kennels due to repeated issues with unsanitary conditions. Prior state violations at the kennel go back to at least 2019, and included dogs exposed to extreme temperatures or who did not have enough space, dogs who were not getting tested for a contagious disease, excessive feces, and more. The USDA has not cited the kennel for any violations in the past three years, despite the numerous problems found by state inspectors. TLC Kennels has sold puppies to Petland stores. USDA #43-A-6036, MO #AC0020VB. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Kathy Mueller/VAK Kennel, aka My Furrever Friend, Creighton, Missouri: Dog who had not been examined by a veterinarian later died; breeder received warning letter. During a June 2022 state inspection, VAK Kennel was cited for keeping dogs in pens with no solid surface to stand on, not keeping adequate records on puppies, and two dogs, Hank and Sadie, who had not been examined by a veterinarian that year, as required by the state’s law. When inspectors returned in November 2022, they found even more violations. They also learned that Hank had died, and Sadie was still missing the examination that inspectors had requested five months prior. The facility received a warning letter for the repeated veterinary care issue. MO #AC000BWG.



A poodle at Carol's Kennel in Urbana, Missouri, was matted and appeared to have patches of hair loss. Only the matted fur was mentioned in the inspection report. *Photo by Missouri Department of Agriculture, 2022*

Kris Peterson/Peterson Puppy Works, Hurdland, Missouri: Dogs were in the freezing cold; some were badly matted or had no water. During a January 2023 visit, state inspectors found dogs in the cold at Peterson Puppy Works. It was 32 degrees and some of the dog houses had no bedding for dogs to use to preserve their body heat. Many other violations were noted, including excessive feces, and some dogs who did not have enough space, were matted, or had overgrown nails. Some of these issues were recurring concerns that had been documented at prior inspections as well. MO #AC000ZVX. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Marjorie Walker Price/Price's Pets; Niangua, Missouri: State inspectors found dogs in an 85-degree whelping building; some dogs had no clean water; officials investigated an infectious disease outbreak. During a state inspection in July 2022, inspectors found unacceptably hot conditions in Price's Pets' whelping building; the temperature was already 85.4 degrees inside, and it was only 11:00 am. Inspectors found additional violations in August 2022, when they went to check about an infectious disease in the kennel. At that inspection, some dogs were

quarantined in unacceptable conditions, including dogs with no potable water. USDA #43-A-6295, MO #AC00132U. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Gary and Carol Prothe/Carol's Kennel, Urbana, Missouri: Recurring issues with very matted dogs, filthy conditions, veterinary deficiencies and dogs out in the cold; kennel has had recurring animal care issues for more than a decade. State inspectors found 20 violations at Carol's Kennel between October and December 2022, including excessive feces, dogs in the cold, significantly matted dogs, and inadequate veterinary records. Recurring issues have been documented at the kennel since at least 2012, including instances of dogs found with no water. In 2014, Prothe was fined by USDA and issued a "Citation and Notification of Penalty." USDA #43-A-6011, MO #AC000ADK. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FOURTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Julie Purvis/Queen of Puppy Love, Camdenton, Missouri: Dealer was unable to provide full information on puppies who had died; some puppies were found in crates so cramped that some were sitting on top of each other. State inspectors found more than 20 significant violations at Queen of Puppy Love between October 2022 and March 2023. Issues included a strong odor, some puppies who had died without documentation of a full explanation of what happened to them, some puppies and dogs who had no water or only dirty water, and some puppies who were transported in crates so cramped that some of them were sitting on top of each other, among many other issues. MO #AC002ZQR.

John and Anna Mary Reiff/Rocky Branch Kennel aka Meadow View Pets, Latham, Missouri: USDA found mother Chihuahua with puppies on dangerous flooring with one inch square gaps; puppies' feet and legs were falling through the flooring. Even after being warned about unsafe housing at past inspections, USDA inspectors again found the Reiffs keeping small puppies on dangerous flooring with gaps so large that inspectors saw their feet and legs "passing through the flooring", which could entrap or injure them, in September 2022.

The breeder was warned about a similar danger with housing in 2014. USDA noted the dogs, a Chihuahua and her three puppies, were on floors with openings of about one inch square. During the same 2022 inspection, USDA found highly questionable recordkeeping, with the same ID number assigned to different dogs. Prior issues included unsanitary conditions, dogs exposed to the cold, and other problems. USDA #43-A-6370, MO #AC0003PT. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Ellen Roberts/Rocky Top K-9s, West Plains, Missouri: A decade of issues; inspectors found an emaciated nursing mother dog and clusters of roaches, excessive feces and a mouse infestation; history of ailing dogs stretches back to at least 2013. After our last report was published, both Missouri inspectors and the USDA found even more violations at a kennel that has had recurring, egregious animal care issues since at least 2013. The issues included an emaciated mother boxer who was obviously in dire condition, as shown in photographs taken by Missouri inspectors, with her ribs, spinal structure and hip bones easily visible. The boxer, named Lindy Lou, was standing in front of any empty bowl, and had a litter of nursing puppies who were only two weeks old. Inspectors required the owner to have her examined by a veterinarian within two days, but did not confiscate Lindy Lou. Inspectors also found clusters of cockroaches, excessive feces, and dogs kept in cramped and decrepit conditions. The facility had almost 200 dogs at a recent USDA inspection. Prior issues documented at the kennel over the last decade included many sick, injured and underweight dogs, dogs with diarrhea and poor conditions. Roberts passed a recent USDA inspection, but concerns remain about her ability to stay in compliance due to the severity of the recurring problems. USDA #43-A-5445, MO #AC00124U. **REPEAT OFFENDER; EIGHTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Mary Ann Smith/Smith's Kennel, Salem, Missouri: AKC breeder with long history of poor animal care dodged six attempted inspections in less than 12 months; some dogs had no water, and inspectors noted an odor and dead mice in the kennel; problems have been found by state and federal inspectors off and on for at least two decades. Off and on for many years, state and USDA inspectors have been finding severe violations at Mary Ann Smith's kennel, including sick or injured dogs, poor housing and dangerous conditions. Inspectors continued to find violations as recently as March 2023, when Smith failed to make the kennel available for USDA inspection for the third time in a row this year, leading to grave concerns about the welfare of her dogs. In fact, Smith dodged six different attempted USDA inspections between May 2022 and March 2023, and when inspectors did get in, they found multiple violations each time. USDA violations found in November 2022 included a repeat violation for some dogs who had no water, and there were dead mice and rodent feces in the kennel. There were more than 100 dogs on the property. State inspectors also found concerns; inspectors responding to a complaint about poor conditions in late 2022 found dogs who were shy and retreated from humans, as well as deteriorating conditions and an odor. Smith was listed in prior HSUS reports as far back as 2010, when she appeared in a report called [Missouri's Dirty Dozen](#). As far back as 2008, inspectors wrote that "The owner has issues with this facility that remain consistent with each inspection and more issues have surfaced since the last inspection." Mary Ann Smith has sold puppies to Petland and other pet stores. USDA #43-A-2296, MO #AC0003Z7. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FOURTH TIME IN AN HSUS REPORT.**

Donna Taber/Jet Kennels, Wasola, Missouri: Dog was found dragging both back legs; other dogs were out in the frigid cold with hardly any bedding; breeder's history of sick or injured dogs goes back to at least 2014. During a January 2023 visit, USDA inspectors found a male dachshund named "Basil" at Jet Kennels who was unable to use his back legs. He was seen dragging himself across the ground by his front legs. Other issues found at the inspection included dogs who were in 33.9 degree weather with hardly any protection from the cold. USDA gave Taber an official warning for the injured dachshund. Missouri inspectors also found recent violations, including matted dogs, a rodent infestation and grime. Sick or injured dogs have been found at the kennel off and

on since at least 2014. Taber passed a recent USDA inspection, but concerns remain about her ability to stay in compliance. USDA #43-A-5497, MO #AC0015LH. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Brenda Walter/Hidden Valley Farms, Greencastle, Missouri: Breeder with issues going back to at least 2007 continues to have recent violations, including a dog who was so thin that her ribs were showing, a dog with an open wound, and dogs with greenish eye discharge; breeder received warning letters in 2022 and in 2023. Walters first appeared in the [Missouri's Dirty Dozen](#) report issued by the HSUS in 2010. At that time, she had a history of violations going back even earlier. As of early 2023, it appears that conditions continue to be poor at Hidden Valley Farms – but only the state inspectors seem to be addressing the problems. State inspectors found a repeated issue with dogs who had no water or only dirty water, and dogs without enough protection from the cold. At inspections between July and November 2022, state inspectors also found a very thin dog, a dog with an open wound, dogs with greenish eye discharge, and more. The state issued warnings to Walters in November 2022 and again in January 2023. Despite the many significant issues found by the state, as of April 2023, the USDA has not cited Walters for any violations since March 2017. USDA #43-B-0425, MO #AC0017N5. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN AN HSUS REPORT.**

Chester and Debbie Williams/Loveable Puppies aka Williams Farms, Greentop, Missouri: Inspectors found an odor so strong it “caused a burning sensation” to their noses; some dogs were thin or in need of veterinary care; breeder received a warning from the state; sold to Petland stores. During at least two visits in late 2022, state inspectors found issues of such high concern at the Williams’ facility that the state issued an official warning in December. Problems included some dogs with no water, some puppies in such a dirty enclosure that they had no clean place to lie down, at least two dogs who were too thin, matted or ailing, and an odor so strong that it was a nasal irritant, among other issues. In addition, USDA inspectors found excessive feces at the kennel in November 2022, and noted that it affected 105 dogs; the facility representative admitted it had been “3 or 4 days since the enclosures had been cleaned.” The facility had 214 dogs in all. The Williams’ have sold puppies to Petland stores. USDA #43-A-5986, MO #AC00207N.

NEBRASKA

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Brenda L. Carroll/Carroll Sell Farms, Plattsmouth, Nebraska: Self-described AKC show dog breeder was found with a bleeding dog, excessive feces, flies and filth; issues stretch back at least a decade. Despite years of recurring noncompliant inspections and repeatedly finding unacceptable conditions, the state seems unwilling to shut down the American Kennel Club-linked breeding operation called [Carroll Sell Farms](#). Recent issues found during June 2022 state inspections included two dogs who were not taken to a veterinarian for at least a week after the inspector requested it, including one dog with a bloody ear and one who had matted feces adhered to her. Other issues that inspectors found in recent months, such as excessive feces and the need for more employees, have also been recurring at the kennel going back to at least 2013. NE #KN1109. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FIFTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Larry and Debra Dauel/L & D Farms, Malmo, Nebraska: State inspectors found a dead dog during one inspection, and a dead puppy during another inspection; called facility “routinely noncompliant,” with not enough staff and unsanitary conditions. During at least four inspections in early 2023, state inspectors found disturbing conditions at L & D Farms, including a dead dog who was found lying outside in the winter cold on Valentine’s Day 2023, and a dead puppy inside a pen in March 2023. At one March inspection, inspectors wrote, “Facility is routinely non compliant because of inadequate cleanliness. More employees or downsizing of dog

numbers is needed to maintain compliance.” The breeders had been given the same instructions at two previous inspections. Regarding the dead animals, it appears the breeders were not instructed to consult with a veterinarian on the cause of the deaths, but were simply told to dispose of the bodies properly. Other issues included no veterinary care plan present, large amounts of feces, and poor ventilation leading to concerns for the health and wellbeing of the dogs. NE #KN877.

Clem Disterhaupt Jr./Ponca Creek Kennels, Spencer, Nebraska: Breeder had more than 100 violations in a year; was rated “unacceptable” at state inspections in 2022 and 2023; history of violations since 2014. State inspectors rated Ponca Creek Kennels “unacceptable” at a November 2022 visit and again in early 2023 due to severe violations. In 2022, the state visited ten different times and found egregious problems every time, including dozens of “Direct” violations, which are issues that have an obvious impact on the dogs. State inspectors had already labeled Ponca Creek Kennels “routinely noncompliant” in 2021, but have continued to allow the kennel to operate for unknown reasons. Issues found again and again included badly matted dogs, strong ammonia (urine) odors, and decrepit conditions. The kennel has almost 200 dogs and has had recurring violations since at least 2014. HSUS undercover video taken in March 2023 found large numbers of caged dogs at the kennel. NE #KN211. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FOURTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Geri and Randy Treptow/Treptow Puppies, Comstock, Nebraska: State found multiple violations at four inspections in a row, including a dead mouse in a water dish. During four state inspections between August 2022 and March 2023, state inspectors found multiple issues at Treptow Puppies, including a mouse infestation, a dead mouse in a water dish, and other unsanitary conditions. NE #KN1729.

NEW YORK

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Michelle Amsler/Toodles Goldendoodles, Macedon, New York: Inspectors had questions about dogs losing weight, care of sick or injured dogs. During a December 2022 visit, state inspectors noted a “critical” violation for lack of proof of a veterinary exam for five dogs who were losing weight. Concerns also included no proof of veterinary exam available for a dog with a hematoma, no treatment plan for some dogs receiving medications or treatments, an odor, and more. Two “critical” veterinary care issues were also noted in 2021. A recent state inspection listed no new violations, but concerns remain about the kennel’s ability to remain in compliance. NY #937.

Helen Camlakides/Sportsman’s Kennels, Manorville, New York: State inspectors found a limping dog, dogs with expired rabies vaccinations and other issues at large puppy mill with almost 300 dogs; issues at the kennel have been recurring since at least 2019. In November 2022, state inspectors cited Sportsman’s Kennels for two “critical” issues – a dog who was limping and three dogs who had expired rabies vaccines. There was also a question about drugs at the kennel that apparently were not a part of the approved veterinary care plan. Inspectors have found recurring issues with veterinary care at Sportsman’s Kennels since at least 2019, when four dogs were found in need of treatment. NY #30. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Rachel Meade Driesbaugh/Sunset Kennels, Port Crane, New York: Recurring veterinary violations stretch back more than a decade. Sunset Kennels has been linked to a list of veterinary deficiencies on and off for more than a decade. In November 2022, state inspectors noted the facility had incomplete or invalid health certificates on all of the breeding dogs, and at least 18 dogs were missing their rabies vaccines, among other issues; in December 2022, inspectors found water bottles contaminated with algae. Veterinary issues were noted as far

back as 2012 and 2013. The facility passed some inspections. NY #579. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Marie and Dorene Duffy/Lotta Spots Ranch, Livonia, New York: Breeder had five problem inspections in 2022 alone; problems included expired vaccines and housing and sanitation issues. State inspectors visited Lotta Spots Ranch at least six times since our last report was published, and encountered issues at most of the visits. During three of the visits, inspectors were not given access to the kennel at all, leaving the welfare of the dogs unknown. During two other visits, inspectors found issues such as incomplete veterinary care and/or housing concerns; similar violations have been noted at Lotta Spots Ranch for at least three years in a row. The facility had almost 100 dogs at a recent inspection. Although it passed a recent inspection, concerns remain about the facility's ability to remain in compliance. NY #1149. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Carolyn Manaher/H & C's Dachshunds and Retrievers, West Valley, New York: State inspectors found a "critical" violation for dogs in such cramped conditions that some dogs' heads were touching the tops of their cages; others did not have space to fully outstretch their legs. New York inspectors who visited H & C's Dachshunds and Retrievers in November 2022 found that some dogs were in such cramped cages that they lacked freedom of movement and could not fully stretch their legs. One dog's paws were caked with muddy, matted fur, and at least two adult bulldogs were in such small enclosures that the tops of the cages were "in contact with dogs' heads." The facility had 55 adult dogs at the time. The facility passed some subsequent inspections, but concerns remain about its ability to stay in compliance. NY #1019.

Sadie and Daniel Yoder/Loper Farm Pets, Jasper, New York: Breeders repeatedly allowed dogs to escape the kennel; one of them was hit by a car and died; received official warning from USDA. On at least three different occasions between 2020 and 2023, USDA inspectors notified the Yoders about unsafe conditions in their kennel that could allow dogs to escape their enclosures. In October 2022, the USDA gave the Yoders an official warning after one of the dogs who escaped was "hit by a car and died," according to the inspection report. In February 2023, a USDA inspector again saw a dog who had escaped the kennel, but failed to cite the issue as a repeat violation. The USDA had also previously notified the Yoders in 2020 that they found defects in the kennel that could allow dogs to escape. In addition, the Yoders had other violations in 2022 and 2021 for dogs in need of attention, including one dog with a red and swollen ear. USDA #21-A-0204.

OHIO

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

William Mathias, Dover, Ohio: Breeder was found "non-compliant" at three inspections in a row for issues such as puppies kept on open gridded flooring and missing veterinary records. During three different state inspections in a row between December 2022 and January 2023, Mathias' kennel was found "non-compliant" for issues such as missing veterinary records, failure to have female dogs examined before breeding them, some dogs and puppies in stacked cages, and lack of a proper disease monitoring program. Puppies and dogs were kept on harmful gridded floors without any solid surfaces, which is against state law. There were more than 100

dogs on the property as of late 2022. Photos taken by state inspectors show numerous dogs in wire or metal cages and gridded flooring. After several noncompliant state inspections, Mathias finally passed one inspection in February 2023. OH #CB002CL5.

Daniel and James Miller/Happy Mountain K9 Facilities aka Puppies R Us, Loudonville, Ohio: Sale of underage puppies and dangerous, dirty conditions; facility had more than 250 dogs. Even after alerting the breeder in prior years to poor housing conditions and the sale of underage puppies, Ohio state inspectors found more issues at the kennel in August 2022, including excessive feces, puppies who could get trapped in the gridded flooring, and the sale of underage puppies. The facility had 255 dogs during a recent inspection. OH #CB0009Z7. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Daniel J. Miller, Holmesville, Ohio: Breeder was cited for performing do-it-yourself euthanasia on five puppies without a veterinarian, and was referred to legal counsel. During a state kennel inspection in December 2022, Daniel Miller admitted to his inspector that he “euthanized” about five puppies who had been born with cleft palates. When the inspector notified Miller that he needed to have animals euthanized by a veterinarian instead of doing it himself, the licensee reportedly claimed “he didn’t know he couldn’t do it.” The violation was referred to Ohio Department of Agriculture’s legal counsel, according to the inspection report. Former OH #CB00278G.

Eli J. Miller, Millersburg, Ohio: Inspectors referred breeder to state’s legal counsel due to “egregious nature” of injured dog with lacerations; also cited for other veterinary violations and poor conditions. During a June 2022 visit to one of Miller’s many kennel locations, state inspectors found an injured cavapoo, who apparently had been in a dangerous predicament for some time without being noticed. She had “her collar slip from her neck becoming lodged between her maxilla and mandible. Lacerations along with wound and odor are present. Due to the egregious nature of the violation, this matter is being referred to ODA’s Legal Counsel,” the state inspection report noted. In July 2022, another dog was found with both hind legs extended through dangerous wire flooring. Many other veterinary problems and safety and sanitation issues were noted during numerous visits to Miller’s many properties, as well as many dogs found in cages that were too small. The facility is linked to multiple state license numbers, including OH #CB002D5X and other license numbers in various locations.

James A. Miller, Millersburg, Ohio: Inspectors referred breeder to legal counsel due to repeated failure to provide adequate housing for dogs; some issues have recurred since 2015. In June 2022, state inspectors referred Miller to the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s legal counsel due to repeated issues such as cages that were too small, an issue the breeder had been warned about numerous times in the past. Photos taken at the facility in 2022 showed numerous dogs in steel-sided cages with gridded floors, who appeared to have no natural light, and no bedding or soft areas to rest on. Issues go back to at least 2015, when inspectors found similar violations as well as a weak and lethargic dog. OH #CB000NDU. **REPEAT OFFENDER; THIRD TIME IN THIS REPORT.**



Dogs at William Mathias’s kennel in Dover, Ohio, were found on gridded flooring without a solid area, which is not permitted under the state’s commercial kennel law. *Photo by Ohio Department of Agriculture. 2022.*

Jeremiah Miller/Blossom Ridge Bulldogs, Sugarcreek, Ohio: Several dogs were in need of veterinary care, including one holding her eye closed; state inspectors referred to legal counsel. Inspectors who visited Blossom Ridge Bulldogs in August 2022 found five violations, including a dog with “tissue protruding out of her vagina,” which the licensee admitted he had noticed two days prior, but he had not yet taken the dog to a veterinarian. In addition, another dog “was holding her eye shut,” a third dog had another eye issue, and there was documentation of the sale of an underage puppy. Several of the issues were referred for legal action, according to the state inspection report. OH #CB002D08.

Andy Nisley/Nunda Valley Kennels, Howard, Ohio: USDA found 45 puppies with no record of vaccinations or deworming, and a large accumulation of feces. In September 2022, USDA inspectors found that Nisley had no vaccination or deworming records on puppies; he had 45 puppies and 57 adults on the premises at the time. Inspectors also noted excessive feces. Past issues at the kennel have included exposing wet and/or muddy dogs to the cold, skipped inspections and dilapidated conditions in the kennel. USDA #31-A-0436, OH #CB000PEN. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Andy C. Raber/Hill Top Kennel, Baltic, Ohio: USDA found no proof of rabies vaccination for 126 dogs; state found repeat violations for dogs with matted hair and matted feces/ dirt in their coats and unsanitary conditions. The USDA cited Raber in March 2023 for having no rabies vaccination records for all 126 adult dogs in his kennel. Inspectors also noted dirty conditions. State inspectors also found violations; even after state inspectors warned Raber to correct issues related to excessive urine in dog runs and two dogs with matted hair with dirt or matted feces in their coats in July 2022, the licensee still had not corrected the issues during an August 2022 visit, resulting in a legal referral for each violation. Other issues state inspectors noted in July included some dogs who were bred without being examined by a veterinarian first, and some dogs without enough solid space. Former USDA #31-A-0760, OH #CB0028PF, #CB000V98.

Freeman S. Raber/Rebar Puppies, Baltic, Ohio: Breeder who supplied puppies to Petland was cited for “egregious” violation for apparently doing his own surgeries on puppies. In July 2022, a state inspector found that Raber, who has supplied puppies to a Petland store, had performed surgeries on multiple litters of schnauzers, allegedly cropping their ears himself. Raber claimed that his veterinarian sedated them first. The inspector noted it was a severe violation because the state requires most surgeries on dogs to be performed by a veterinarian, and noted that, “Due to the egregious nature of the violation, this matter is being referred to ODA’s Legal Counsel.” Ear cropping can cause pain, infection or deformity if not performed by a veterinarian. In August, state inspectors noted that the issue had been settled. Raber’s facility had more than 200 dogs at a recent USDA inspection. USDA #31-A-0074, OH #CB000DD.

Kimberly L. Richmond/Richmond Kennel, London, Ohio: Puppies were kept in plastic crates, inspectors found many dogs without enough space; there were no recent veterinary examinations on any of the female dogs at facility with more than 160 dogs. Richmond Kennel was found “non-compliant” during a state inspection in December 2022 after inspectors found many dogs without enough space, and there was no documentation that any of the female dogs on the premises had had their required veterinary examinations in 2021 or 2022. Inspectors noted that they were making a legal referral. Photos taken as part of the inspection showed numerous small dogs kept in black plastic crates that resemble large dairy crates, with some of the tops covered in wire. The crates were lined with wood shavings, and in several of the photos, it appears that the dogs’ water and food bowls were contaminated with wood shavings. Former OH #CB000PCS.

David R. Yoder/Waterfall Puppies, Dundee, Ohio: Owner of massive puppy mill with more than 280 dogs had no veterinary records to explain how or why some dogs died; missing vaccination records; admitted “he

never removes the excreta” from outdoor enclosures. During a September 2022 visit to Waterfall Puppies, USDA inspectors asked about some dogs who were listed as dead or “euthanized” in the facility’s records. The owner was unable to produce any records that showed the dogs had been evaluated or treated by a veterinarian before they died, leading to concerns about how and why they died. It also appears there were no records of parvovirus or distemper vaccinations for adult dogs. Inspectors also found excessive feces and three loose dogs. State inspectors also found multiple violations in late 2022 and early 2023, including veterinary deficiencies, a dog with cloudy spots on her eyes, and some dogs in cages without enough solid floor space. There were more than 280 dogs and puppies on the property during a recent inspection. USDA #31-A-0845, OH #CB0010PN.

Eli J. Yoder/Meadow Brook Kennel, Baltic, Ohio: More than 20 violations for issues such as inadequate housing and sanitation and missing proof of veterinary care. Yoder had some federal violations and approximately 18 state violations in 2022. Ohio state records show repeated issues with not enough solid flooring, an inappropriate method of cleaning, missing veterinary records and more. When questioned about the missing veterinary records, the licensee claimed he had had the dogs examined, but threw the records away. In fact, the breeder had almost as many violations as dogs; he had 25 adult dogs and 16 puppies during a recent USDA inspection. USDA #31-A-0447, OH #CB0007N4.

Leroy E. Yoder/Mohawk Kennels, Walhonding, Ohio: Breeder held a dog in the air, yelled and threatened to kill the dog after being informed of violations; inspector had to leave prematurely. In July 2022, a state inspector had to leave Mohawk Kennels in the middle of an inspection, after the breeder began yelling and then threatened to kill one of his own dogs when the inspector documented flooring violations. Even after the egregious act, when a state inspector returned a few weeks later, the same violation for unsafe flooring remained. Additional violations have been documented at the kennel as early as 2016. In March 2023, the USDA cited Yoder for housing violations after finding unsanitary conditions, including horse wastes and other excreta near the dogs. In May 2021, USDA found five violations for issues such as dirty conditions and an odor strong enough to irritate the inspector’s eyes and throat. USDA #31-A-0552, OH #CB0007UR.

OKLAHOMA

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Chris McGill/Chris’s Kennel, McAlester, Oklahoma: Received official warning from USDA after inspectors found dead and ailing puppies, roaches dropping from the ceiling and other horrific conditions; breeder sold to Petland. Chris’s Kennel received an official warning in August 2022 after USDA inspectors who had visited in late May found terrible conditions. A litter of nursing miniature pinscher puppies were found only half alive; there were two dead puppies and one listless puppy “with shallow breathing;” the licensee was unaware of the dead puppies even though at least one of them was already decaying; she said she hadn’t checked on them in two days. There is no record to indicate that USDA inspectors confiscated the surviving puppies or notified local authorities after discovering the neglect. Inspectors also noted that roaches were crawling all over one kennel building and in the dogs’ food, and even dropping from the ceiling. Significant issues at Chris’s Kennel have been noted off and on for about a decade; between 2013 and 2014, USDA found thin dogs and dogs with wounds and sores. The kennel passed some recent inspections, but it remains a significant concern due to the gravity of the issues found less than a year ago. McGill has sold at least one puppy to a Petland store. USDA #73-A-1257, OK# BRD00004. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

PENNSYLVANIA

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Nathan Bazler/Dianna Burkindine /Little Puppies Online LLC aka Pennsylvania Puppies Online, Red Lion, Pennsylvania: Puppy seller linked to a multi-state and online presence received a verbal and written warning for cramped conditions; some caged puppies could not stand up fully, turn freely or sit down in a normal position. During a September 2022 state inspection, the Little Puppies Online kennel received a warning for several issues, including some cages containing puppies who were so cramped that they could not turn, stand erect or sit and lie down normally. At the time, there were over 100 puppies on the premises. The Ohio location of Little Puppies Online is licensed as a retail puppy store in Ohio, and the operation also has a presence in Georgia, Indiana and Florida. Its Maryland location closed after it was found operating in violation of the state's humane pet store law; Maryland's attorney general [fined the LLC](#) in August 2022, and it could owe up to \$250,000 if conditions of the settlement agreement are violated. The Pennsylvania kennel still bears the same phone number as the now-shuttered Maryland business, which was also owned by Nathan and Sarah Bazler. PA #18037. (Former Ohio USDA #31-B-0174). **REPEAT OFFENDER**; affiliates in two prior reports.

David Beiler/Blissful Paws, New Providence, Pennsylvania: State issued three citations in less than 10 months. During inspections in May 2022, September 2022 and March 2023, state authorities found multiple violations at Blissful Paws and issued citations each time. Some of the issues included matted dogs, unsanitary conditions and a failure to keep up with regular veterinary examinations. The kennel also received a verbal and written warning from the state in early 2022. PA #17875.

Margaret (Molly) Graf/Eichenluft Working German Shepherds, Newville, Pennsylvania: State gave another warning to kennel that has violated the Pennsylvania dog laws for more than a decade. When state inspectors gave a verbal and written warning to Graf's facility in December 2022, it was just one of many warnings, citations or violations that Graf has accumulated since at least 2010. The warning was due to issues such as several dogs who had inadequate protection from the cold. Inspectors also found a lack of proper vaccination documents and other records. Prior issues have included chronic veterinary concerns as well as operating without the proper license. Graf also has a history of criminal infractions, including failure to keep a kennel in sanitary and humane condition (2010, guilty plea); operating a kennel without a license (2010, guilty plea); and a 2017 guilty plea for failing to keep a kennel in sanitary and humane conditions. PA #06585. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SIXTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Stephen King/Steve's Kennels, Lancaster, Pennsylvania: Received two written and verbal warnings within less than three months. Between late June and early September 2022, state inspectors issued two verbal and written warnings to Steve's Kennels. The issues were related to unsanitary conditions, such as water bowls with greenish growth on them and excess feces, and unsafe housing that could hurt the dogs. PA #17523.

Amos Stoltzfus/Woodland Puppies, Honey Brook, Pennsylvania: Kennel was placed under state quarantine in January 2023 due to outbreak of reportable disease. Woodland Puppies was placed under a state quarantine in January 2023 for an outbreak of canine brucellosis, a zoonotic disease that could spread to humans and other species. Brucellosis is a [reportable disease](#) in the state. Many other violations were noted in 2022, including repeated issues with enclosures that were too small and a lack of veterinary records. PA #16427.

Susie and Michael Stoltzfus/Stoltzfus Puppies, Allenwood, Pennsylvania: Kennel had more violations than adult dogs; sold puppies to pet store without a license. Between May 2022 and February 2023, state officials cited Stoltzfus for 25 violations, which was more than the number of adult dogs (13-15) on the property at a

given time. Issues included selling puppies to a pet shop without the necessary license, enclosures that were too small, and no program of veterinary care. Commercial breeders are also required to have a federal license to sell puppies to pet stores, but as of April 28, 2023, HSUS researchers could find no sign of an active USDA license for Stoltzfus Puppies or for anyone named Stoltzfus in Allenwood, Pennsylvania. PA #17412.

Marlin and Esther Mae Zimmerman/Turkey Hill Kennel, East Earl, Pennsylvania: Instructed at least 10 times to have veterinary checks on dogs since 2010. The year 2022 was at least the seventh year that Zimmerman/Turkey Hill was ordered by state inspectors to have veterinary checks done on an unspecified number of dogs, and there were 10 separate instances in all. There were almost 100 dogs on the property at the most recent available inspection. Issues found in prior years included dogs housed in dark and filthy conditions with poor air quality. PA #02459. **REPEAT OFFENDER; FIFTH TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Stephen Zook/Oak Ridge Kennel, Manheim, Pennsylvania: State inspectors issued two verbal and written warnings and two citations within less than nine months. State inspectors found violations at four different inspections of Oak Ridge Kennel between August 2022 and March 2023, and issued two verbal and written warnings as well as two citations on different dates. The issues included a dog with a neck lesion that looked like it had been there “for some time,” repeated issues with some dogs kept in cages that were too small, and unsanitary conditions with an accumulation of dust, dirt and dead bugs. PA #16389.

TEXAS

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Rachel Armstrong/Ay Raam Farms LLC, Kingsbury, Texas: AKC breeder failed to have animal health records or clean and safe conditions; violations sent to enforcement. In the fall of 2022, Texas inspectors sent violations to enforcement after Armstrong failed to show animal health records for “at least two years.” State inspectors also found unclean and unsafe conditions. TX #332. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Danya Bueno/Buenos Little Bulldogs, Andrews, Texas: AKC breeder repeatedly failed to have veterinary examinations on dogs; violations sent to enforcement in 2023 and 2021. Even after appearing in our 2022 report for failing to have veterinary records on dogs and other issues, Buenos Little Bulldogs was cited again in January 2023 for some of the same issues and more. Texas inspectors sent several violations to enforcement, state records show. TX #355. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Carla Hendrickson, Skyllar Cummings and Kelton Roberson/CKS’s Dachshunds, Mabank, Texas. State inspectors found violations for excessive flies, feces and unsafe conditions at AKC breeder’s facility. State officials sent a number of the violations discovered at CKS’s Dachshunds to enforcement in September 2022, noting issues with excessive flies and feces, as well as unsafe conditions that included rust, holes, jagged edges and exposed nails that could harm the puppies. Many additional violations have been documented in prior years, including operating without a license. CKS’s Dachshunds was offering AKC puppies for sale on its [website](#) as recently as April 2023. TX #261. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Vickie and Jim McKown/Maltese Acres, Avery, Texas: Inspectors sent violations to enforcement due to poor conditions; breeders were fined \$1,500 by the state in 2022 for lacking a veterinary care plan. Maltese Acres appeared in our 2021 report and has accumulated additional violations since then, including problems with rusty cages and floors and poor ventilation in the puppy barn. State records show that violations were sent to

enforcement in November 2022. The operation, which sells puppies [online](#), was also fined in \$1,500 in 2022 for lacking a veterinary care plan. TX #290. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

VIRGINIA

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details.

Elena and Andrey Mikirticheva, North Chesterfield, Virginia: Dealer had dozens of USDA violations; failed to take ailing animals to a veterinarian, including a French bulldog with a “painful” mouth who had not been treated for almost three years, a French bulldog with a neck wound that had been evident for four weeks, a thin, limping cat with a large abdominal mass, and many others. USDA inspectors found dozens of violations during the course of three visits to the Mikirticheva facility between March and April 2023, some of which were direct violations visibly impacting the health of dogs and cats. One of them was a French bulldog who had first been diagnosed with a “severe fracture” of her upper canine tooth in April 2020; a veterinarian had recommended that the dog be treated in both 2020 and in 2021, but the licensee did not follow up, and the dog’s mouth was in even worse condition as of March 2023; the dog was “resistant to touch and painful” when the broken tooth was touched, and other teeth were worn down “some almost to the gum line.” In addition, a French bulldog with a neck wound had not been treated by a veterinarian, even though the wound had been visible for at least four weeks, nor had a cat who had “dehydration, poor body condition, a large abdominal mass, and lameness;” the licensees claimed they were taking the cat to a veterinarian in another country. Many other animals were found in need of treatment for different ailments. In addition, inspectors found dogs housed outside in extreme weather as high as 98 degrees and as low as 8 degrees Fahrenheit without veterinary approval, inadequate protection from the weather, dirty and unsafe conditions, and not enough staff to adequately care for all the animals. USDA #52-B-0175.

WISCONSIN

Click [here](#) to view selected documents with further details on each dealer.

Harley E. Bontrager, Cambria, Wisconsin: Breeder failed to help dog in need of care for six months after inspector’s first request; dog had a bleeding wound. When a USDA inspector visited Bontrager in July 2022, the breeder was instructed to obtain a veterinary evaluation for a Yorkie with dental issues. Six months later, in January 2023, USDA inspectors found that the same dog still had veterinary issues that had only gotten worse and had not been treated. The Yorkie’s mouth still had a loose tooth and now had exposed tooth roots, and there was a hairless spot under one eye that had pus and drainage. In addition, there was an open, draining sore near the dog’s other eye that was bleeding. USDA #35-A-0471, WI #494680.

Christy and Eli Borntreger/Shady Valley Kennels, Tomah, Wisconsin: Shih tzu with clouded, dented cornea had not been treated by a veterinarian; breeder had prior issue with do-it-yourself veterinary care. In December 2022, a USDA inspector stopped the licensee from giving an unprescribed eye ointment to a shih tzu with a clouded, indented eye. Giving the wrong ointment to a dog with corneal injury could make the injury worse, and there was no proof that the licensee had contacted a veterinarian for guidance. Although the USDA inspector did not mark the violation as a repeat, the breeder had a similar, Direct violation in 2021 for a dog with an open wound that the licensee was also trying to self-treat. There were more than 90 dogs at the facility in 2022. USDA #35-A-0459, WI #484198. **REPEAT OFFENDER; SECOND TIME IN THIS REPORT.**

Carla Brovont/Paws n Play Kennel, Elroy, Wisconsin: USDA found a dog with an open sore and some dogs and puppies without enough space at huge facility with more than 200 dogs. During a visit in November 2022,

USDA inspectors found a Labrador retriever with an open sore and some hair loss; the licensee admitted she had noticed an issue with the dog two days prior to the inspection, but had not contacted her veterinarian to have the dog evaluated. The USDA also found multiple dogs and puppies who didn't have enough space. There were 213 dogs and puppies on the premises. USDA #35-A-0389, WI #412143.

Reuben E. Graber/Creekside Kennel, Hillsboro, Wisconsin: Twenty-six puppies died from exposure to excessive heat. In February 2023, the USDA issued a "critical" violation, indicating a severe issue, to Reuben Graber after discovering that 26 puppies died in a single day. The puppies reportedly died after stove vents were not closed overnight and they were exposed to extremely high heat. Prior to the 2023 visit, USDA had not inspected the property since 2020. USDA #35-A-0472, WI #497857.

William aka Junior Yutzy, Hillsboro, Wisconsin: USDA found 15 violations during four different inspections in less than a year. USDA inspectors found 15 different violations at the Yutzy kennel between April 2022 and March 2023, at least five of which were repeat violations. Cleaning and sanitation issues were found during all four visits. Issues included some puppies who didn't have enough space, excessive feces and a strong odor. During the March 2023 inspection, a repeat violation was noted for excessive feces, and some dogs had stepped in the wastes. USDA #35-A-0405, WI #467389.

METHODOLOGY AND RESOURCES

Visit our [Google document](#) for information about our Methodology (how we select dealers for the report), how the HSUS defines a puppy mill, buyer beware information, information on how to report a puppy mill, and more.