2559

Bender, Mary

From: Paladina, Jeffrey

Sent: Monday, January 29, 2007 9:01 AM

To: Bender, Mary

Subject: FW: Dealer's Licenses

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

Jeffrey M. Paladina, Esquire Special Prosecutor Dog Law Enforcement, Department of Agriculture Phone: 717-787-3062 E-mail: jpaladina@state.pa.us

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-----Original Message-----

From: MainLineRescue@aol.com [mailto:MainLineRescue@aol.com] Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2007 12:56 PM To: jlsmith@state.pa.us; jpaladina@state.pa.us Cc: MRPerelman@aol.com Subject: Dealer's Licenses

I think it is a very good thing that you are beginning to crack down on unlicensed out-of-state dealers. But I had an idea. Would it be possible to require a person applying for a dealer's license in PA to show proof that they have a USDA license to wholesale dogs? This way, you are only licensing dealers who are a) Not breaking the law by wholesaling dogs without a USDA license, b) Who have had their facilities inspected by the USDA (difficult for PA Dog Law to know if a breeder in Ohio, etc is treating their dogs well. If a kennel has been inspected by the USDA, then they are at least opening their kennels to someone), and c) You will have access to all the USDA inspection reports in other states which will make it easier for you to determine if indeed you want to license a particular dealer. This will prevent you from licensing people prosecuted for violating the AWA, etc. I think this would be a valuable step to ensure that only healthy dogs from USDA inspected and licensed breeders/dealers will be able to be brought into and sold in PA.

Also, there must be a way to find out if a person applying has been convicted of Animal Cruelty, closed down by authorities in their states, etc. So PA's Dog Law doesn't look foolish by offering them a license. Are you requiring the applicants to disclose whether or not they have ever been convicted of Animal Cruelty, are citizens of the US, or USDA licensed to wholesale dogs, on their applications for dealer's licenses? Something similar to the additions to your new kennel applications? If not you should.

Please consider this a "Public Comment" to the proposed regs. I will send you the rest of my

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suggestions in the following week. Thank you for working on this issue. It may prevent many dogs with highly contagious diseases from being transported in PA. If you look at a lot of the complaints regarding sick puppies in PA, you will see many of these dogs came from unlicensed out-of-state breeders.

Bill Smith Main Line Animal Rescue