



Inspection Report

Council's Transportation LLC
833 Johnson town rd
Zebulon, NC 27597

Customer ID: **6014408**
Certificate: **55-T-0339**
Site: 001
Council's transportation LLC

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 02-MAY-2023

2.131(b)(1) Critical

Handling of animals.

During consigned vehicle transportation from Delaware to Iowa, a dog was found deceased in a crate in the transport vehicle upon arrival at the Iowa location. The carrier was unaware that the dog had died until he and the receiving person in Iowa opened the crate and found it dead. This information was verified by the registrant and the Iowa receiver. Handling a dog in a manner that does not ensure good health can result in serious compromise of health and can lead to the death of the animal. The regulations state that handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort. Correct by 20June2023.

2.134(a)

Contingency planning.

During a 2-hour phone interview conducted with Mr. Council by Chad Moore and Mary Ann McBride, Mr. Council stated that he did not have a written contingency plan to use in case of emergency. Not having a documented contingency plan puts the health of the animals being transported at risk during times of emergency. The regulations state that intermediate handlers and carriers must develop, document, and follow an appropriate plan to provide for the humane handling, treatment, transportation, housing and care of their animals in the event of an emergency or disaster. Correct by 20June2023.

3.14(c) Critical

Consignments to carriers and intermediate handlers.

During the 2-hour interview with Mr. Council, he was asked if he received the required statements from the consignor regarding when the dog had last been offered food and water. Mr. Council stated that he did not receive this information and was unaware of this requirement. The necropsy report for this animal states that the dog was severely dehydrated and was not properly fed or watered during transport. During a phone call with the veterinarian who conducted the necropsy, they stated that "there was no ingesta in the stomach or small colon and only the dark tarry material in the large colon" and that "the dog had been dead for at least 12 hours prior to the necropsy, based on the level of post-mortem changes." Not verifying when the animal last received food or water and not using that information to determine future food and water times can lead to an animal not being properly fed or hydrated during transportation, which can lead to the animal's death. The regulations state that carriers and intermediate handlers must not accept a dog for transport in

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commerce unless the consignor certifies in writing to the carrier that the dog was offered food and water during the 4 hours before delivery to the carrier. The certification must be securely attached to the outside of the primary enclosure in a manner that makes it easily noticed and read. Correct by 20June2023.

3.15(b)

Primary enclosures used to transport live dogs and cats.

The necropsy report for the dog found deceased at the end of a 5-day consigned transport indicated that the dog's body was soiled with urine upon receipt. Not maintaining adequate cleanliness during transportation can result in soiling of the animal. The regulations state that if the dog is in transit for more than 24 hours, the enclosure must be cleaned and any litter replaced, to prevent the soiling of the dog by body waste. Correct by 20June2023.

3.17(a) Critical

Food and water requirements.

The necropsy report conducted on a dog found deceased at the end of a 5 day transport stated that the patient "is severely dehydrated, eyes are sunken in, and has dark, tarlike stools. Can confirm that patient was not fed or watered during transport due to the severity of malnourishment." During a phone conversation with the veterinarian who conducted the necropsy, they stated that "there was no ingesta in the stomach or small colon and only the dark tarry material in the large colon." They stated that they believed "the dog had been dead for at least 12 hours prior to the necropsy, based on the level of post-mortem changes." Although Mr. Council stated during a 2-hour interview that he had fed and watered the dog adequately, the necropsy results dispute his statement. Not providing adequate food and water in a timely manner can result in significant health concerns for the animals and can result in death of the animals. The regulations state that each dog that is 16 weeks of age or more must be offered food at least once every 24 hours. Each dog must be offered palatable water at least once every 12 hours. Correct by 20June2023.

3.18(a) Critical

Care in transit.

During the two-hour interview with Mr. Council, he was asked about the frequency of observations of the dog in his van being transported from Delaware to Iowa. He stated that he did not remember how often he looked at the dog and made several conflicting statements. At different times he said five hours, eight hours, and that he was uncertain of how often he checked on him. He stated that the dog was being transported in his minivan without the back seats. Toward the end of the 5-day transport, he stated that he did not check the dog after leaving the last truck stop where he had stopped to sleep. He did not check the dog before going into the facility receiving the dog and spent about an hour inside the facility. He stated that it was probably six to eight hours from the last time he checked the dog to when the dog was found dead in its kennel. The necropsy conducted on the dog soon after its death was discovered indicates that the animal had not been adequately fed or watered during transport and that the dog was severely dehydrated. During a phone conversation with the veterinarian who conducted the necropsy, they stated that "there was no ingesta in the stomach or small colon and only the dark tarry material in the large colon" and that "the dog had been dead for at least 12 hours prior to the necropsy, based on the level of post-mortem changes." Not following the required 4 hour or less observation of the animal in transit can result in compromised health and subsequent death of the animal. The regulations state that the operator of the conveyance or a person accompanying the operator observes the dog as often as circumstances allow, but not less than once every 4 hours, to make sure they have sufficient air for normal breathing, that the ambient temperature is within the

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limits provided in 3.16(e), and that all applicable standards of this subpart are being complied with. The regulated person must ensure that the operator or person accompanying the operator determines whether the dog is in obvious physical distress and obtains any veterinary care needed for the dog at the closest available veterinary facility. Correct by 20June2023.

3.18(d)

Care in transit.

During the two-hour interview with Mr. Council, he stated that the dog was allowed to roam about in the van during transport on occasion and that he took the dog out of the van on leash to walk it outside. A video of him walking the dog on a single leash outside on a sidewalk was sent to the consignor on the day after transport started. Taking a dog out of its transport enclosure during transit can result in injury to the animal or its escape. The regulations state that removal during transportation in commerce is prohibited. Except during the cleaning of the primary enclosures, as required in 3.15(b), during transportation in commerce a dog must not be removed from its primary enclosure, unless it is placed in another primary enclosure or facility that meets the requirements of 3.6 or 3.15. Correct by 20June2023.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the registrant.

Additional Inspectors:

CHAD MOORE, Transportation Field Specialist

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Species Inspected

| Cust No | Cert No | Site | Site Name | Inspection |
|---------|-----------|------|------------------------------|-------------|
| 6014408 | 55-T-0339 | 001 | Council's transportation LLC | 02-MAY-2023 |

| Count | Scientific Name | Common Name |
|--------|-----------------|-------------|
| 000000 | NONE | NONE |
| 000000 | Total | |