

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE



**OFFICIAL WARNING**  
**VIOLATION OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS**

CASE NUMBER:  
WY11003-AC

VIOLATOR:  
Sharon Curless

ADDRESS (Street, City, State, ZIP Code):  
d/b/a Ruff Pine Kennel  
6090 CR 212  
Pine Bluffs, WY 82082

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has evidence that on or about the date(s) listed below, you or your organization committed the following violation(s) of Federal Regulations:

**Date of Violation: July 21, 2011**

**9 C.F.R. § 3.1(c)(2)** Housing facilities, general. Surfaces – Maintenance and replacement of surfaces. The surfaces of housing facilities – including houses, dens, and other furniture-type fixtures and objects within the facility – must be constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized, or removed or replaced when worn or soiled. All surfaces must be maintained on a regular basis.

You failed to maintain elevated wooden boxes in enclosures that were no longer impervious to moisture.

**Date of Violation: July 21, 2011**

**9 C.F.R. § 3.6(a)(2)(i)** Primary enclosures. General requirements. Primary enclosures must be constructed and maintained so that they have no sharp points or edges that could injure the dogs and cats.

You failed to keep 3 outdoor enclosures in good repair, as evidenced by rusted wires and sharp points that could injure th dogs.

**Date of Violation: December 14, 2011**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.126(b)** Access and inspection of records and property. Each dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler, or carrier, shall, during business hours, allow APHIS officials the use of a room, table, or other facilities necessary for the proper examination of the records and inspection of the property or animals must be extended to APHIS officials by the dealer, exhibitor, intermediate handler or carrier, and a responsible adult shall be made available to accompany APHIS officials during the inspection process.

You failed to have a responsible adult available to accompnay APHIS officials during an inspection.

**Date of Violation: July 5, 2012**

**9 C.F.R. § 3.4(b)(3)** Outdoor housing facilities. Shelter from the elements. Outdoor facilities for dogs or cats must include one or more shelter structures that are accessible to each animal in each outdoor facility, and that are large enough to allow each animal in the shelter to sit, stand, and lie in a normal manner, and to turn about freely. In addition to the shelter structures, one or more separate outside areas of shade must be provided, large enough to contain all the animals at one time and protect them from the direct rays of the

sun. Shelters in outdoor facilities for dogs or cats must contain a roof, four sides, and a floor, and must be provided with a wind break and rain break at the entrance.

You failed to provide a wind and rain break for the shelter structure in an outdoor enclosure housing 1 Papillion and 3 Maltese dogs, and for the shelter structure in an outdoor enclosure housing 2 Miniature Poodles.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) created federal regulations to ensure the welfare of animals and help prevent the spread of animal and plant pests and diseases. Since violations of the regulations can have serious and costly impacts that are detrimental to the public interest, APHIS is providing you with an Official Warning for the violation(s) described above. Any further violation of these federal regulations may result in the assessment of a civil penalty, criminal prosecution, or other sanctions. If you have any questions concerning this Official Warning or violation(s), please contact the APHIS official listed in this notice.

**APHIS OFFICIAL (Name):**

Robert J. Huttenlocker

**OFFICE ADDRESS:**

4700 River Road, Unit 85  
Riverdale, MD 20737

**APHIS OFFICIAL (Title):**

Director, Investigative and Enforcement Services

**DATE ISSUED:**

12/20/2012

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:**

(301) 851-2948