



Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Veterinary Division

R. Douglas Meckes, DVM
State Veterinarian

January 5, 2016

Aaron Church
Rowan County Manager
130 W. Innes Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28146

Notice of Warning

Re: Violation of Title 02, N. C. Administrative Code ("NCAC") Chapter 52J, Section .0101(1), (2), and (4) and Section 52J .0103

Shelter: Rowan County Animal Shelter
Certification No. 36

Dear Mr. Church:

The Animal Welfare Section ("AWS") of the Veterinary Division of the N. C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ("NCDA&CS") received a complaint concerning the Rowan County Animal Shelter ("the shelter"). The complaint referenced 13 cats that appeared to have been abandoned as a group in Iredell County. The cats were traced back to the Rowan County Shelter. The shelter had transferred the cats to a cat rescue ("the rescue"). Iredell County Animal Control transported the cats back to the shelter and signed a Rowan County Animal Shelter surrender form documenting this return. The investigation conducted by AWS revealed that 1) although the cats were turned in to the shelter by Iredell County Animal Control, no intake paperwork was done by the shelter upon the surrender of animals from Iredell county; 2) shelter staff admits to disposing of the surrender form since the cats were transferred immediately to the rescue in the parking lot of the shelter and 3) no disposition paperwork for these cats was completed by the shelter prior to returning to the cats to the rescue.

Based on the results of this complaint investigation, you may have violated the following regulations:

02 NCAC 52J .0101 RECORDS; ANIMAL SHELTERS, ETC.

Operators of all animal shelters, pet shops, public auctions, and dealers shall maintain records on all dogs and cats showing the following:

- (1) origin of animals (including names and addresses of consignors) and date animals were received;
- (2) description of animals including species, age, sex, breed, and color markings;
- (4) disposition of animals including name and address of person to whom animal is sold, traded or adopted and the date of such transaction; in the event of death, the record shall show the date, signs of illness, or cause of death if identified; if euthanized, the record shall show date and type of euthanasia; and

*History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-24;
Eff. April 1, 1984;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2005; April 1, 1985.*

02 NCAC 52J .0103 INSPECTION OF RECORDS

All operators of animal shelters, pet shops, boarding kennels, public auctions, and persons operating as dealers shall make all required records available to the director or his authorized representative on request, during the business and cleaning hours listed on the license application. The operator must be able to match each animal to its record upon request. Records shall be maintained for a period of one year after the animal is released.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-24; 19A-25;
Eff. April 1, 1984;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2005; April 1, 1985.*

This letter shall constitute a **WARNING**. If a future violation of these statutes or regulations occurs, it could result in disciplinary action against your facility's certificate of registration pursuant to N. C. General Statute §19A-30 or the assessment of a civil penalty of up to \$5,000.00 per violation under N. C. Gen. Statute §19A-40.

Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Patricia Norris, DVM

cc: Joe Reardon, Assistant Commissioner, NCDA&CS
Dr. R. Douglas Meckes, N. C. State Veterinarian
Tina Hlabse, General Counsel, NCDA&CS
Christopher R. McLennan, Assistant Attorney General