



Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Veterinary Division

Christina Waggett
Assistant Commissioner
for Consumer Protection

Michael Martin, DVM
State Veterinarian

June 24, 2024

Stephanie Parks
Owner
Paw Daddy's
449 Jack Young Road
Lexington, NC 27292

Re: Compliance with NC General Statute § 19A-28

Dear Ms. Parks:

The Animal Welfare Section ("AWS") of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services ("NCDA&CS") opened an investigation into the potential operation of an unlicensed boarding kennel called Paw Daddy's, located at 6116 Old US HWY 52, Lexington, NC 27295.

On June 18, 2024, Animal Health Technician Shore ("Inspector Shore") conducted a site visit at the 6116 Old US Hwy 52, Lexington, NC address in coordination with Davidson County Animal Control. She found that the facility may have been boarding dogs and cats at this location and conducting activities consistent with the NC Animal Welfare Act ("AWA") definition of a boarding kennel. A review of AWS records does not show an active boarding kennel license for this facility or for you at any other address.

Until such a time the facility has a valid AWS boarding kennel license, you may not operate as a boarding kennel. This means that the facility may not board or provide day care services for any dogs or cats.

To initiate the process to become licensed as a boarding kennel, you must complete the boarding kennel license application, submit the application fee, pass a Facility Compliance Inspection and be issued a boarding kennel license from the AWS before housing any dogs or cats. If you need a copy of the application form, it can be found on the AWS website at the following link:

<https://www.ncagr.gov/veterinary/awsnewboardingapp/open>.

Failure to abide by this directive shall be considered a willful disregard or violation of the NC Animal Welfare Act and the rules issued pursuant thereto. Under NC General Statute § 19A-40, violation of the

NC Animal Welfare Act and the rules issued pursuant thereto may result in the assessment of a civil penalty of up to \$5,000.00 per violation.

In addition, pursuant to NC General Statute § 19A-33, operation of a boarding kennel without a currently valid license constitutes a Class 3 misdemeanor with each day of operation constituting a separate offense.

Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Norris DVM MS".

Patricia Norris, DVM, MS
Director, Animal Welfare Section
Veterinary Division, NCDA&CS

cc:

Dr. Michael Martin, DVM, State Veterinarian, NCDA&CS
Christina Waggett, Assistant Commissioner, NCDA&CS
Jonathan Lanier, General Counsel, NCDA&CS
Christopher McLennan, Assistant Attorney General

Appendix

RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS

§ 19A-28. License required for public auction or boarding kennel.

No person shall operate a public auction or a boarding kennel unless a license to operate such establishment shall have been granted by the Director. Application for such license shall be made in the manner provided by the Director. The license period shall be the fiscal year and the license fee shall be seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for each license period or part thereof beginning with the first day of the fiscal year.

§ 19A-33. Penalty for operation of pet shop, kennel or auction without license.

Operation of a pet shop, kennel, or public auction without a currently valid license shall constitute a Class 3 misdemeanor subject only to a penalty of not less than five dollars (\$5.00) nor more than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), and each day of operation shall constitute a separate offense.

§ 19A-40. Civil Penalties.

The Director may assess a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) against any person who violates a provision of this Article or any rule promulgated thereunder. In determining the amount of the penalty, the Director shall consider the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation. The clear proceeds of civil penalties assessed pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-457.2.