

HOW PETS ARE ACQUIRED BY RANDOM SOURCE DEALERS

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations permit Class B or random source dealers to obtain dogs and cats only from 1) other dealers licensed by USDA, 2) municipal or contract pounds, and 3) individuals who have bred and raised the animals themselves. In actuality, random source dealers frequently acquire animals illegally from unlicensed individuals known as “bunchers.” These bunchers collect dogs and cats from various sources and are oftentimes involved in fraudulent activities, even theft. Some obtain animals by responding to newspaper advertisements offering animals “Free To A Good Home.” Others steal dogs and cats from their owners’ backyards. Bunchers deliver animals directly to the dealers’ facilities, arrange clandestine drop-offs, or sell them to dealers at dog auctions, otherwise known as “trade days.”

Dealers routinely sell animals to other dealers, and some dogs and cats are transferred from dealer to dealer, often moving across state lines several times. This makes it virtually impossible for pet owners to track down their missing pets and seriously impedes USDA’s ability to trace the sources of animals to ensure they are legitimate.

Class B dealers are required to record the name, address, vehicle license number and driver’s license number of the person from whom each and every animal is acquired. USDA audits of random source dealers’ records have revealed serious and widespread disregard of this simple requirement. USDA has uncovered numerous instances of dealers falsifying the identities of their suppliers in an effort to conceal the purchase of animals from illegal sources. One buncher, who regularly sold animals to several licensed dealers, admitted selling animals he had not bred and raised to a dealer, providing the dealer with false names (including those of family members) to be recorded on the dealer’s acquisition sheet.



Wiggles and Bear, acquired through deceit by a man responding to a "free to good home" advertisement. The dogs were sold to a Class B dealer. Bear died in a California laboratory. Wiggles (shown below) was rescued from the dealer one day prior to his shipment to a research facility.





A cocker spaniel, Demetria, was stolen from her home in Oregon and sold by teenagers to a Class B dealer who killed her because she was too small to sell to a laboratory. (ABC 20/20)



Above, Bogie is being returned to her owners by a Mississippi dealer. Below, Bogie back in the custody of her owners. (CBS Eye to Eye with Connie Chung)





Buffy was stolen, but her owner found her as she was being delivered to an Arkansas Class B dealer. Buffy's owner had to pay the dealer \$15.00 to get her dog back. (KARK-TV, Little Rock, AR)



Sheba was taken from inside a barn on her family's farm in Minnesota and sold to a Class B dealer and then to a laboratory. One of the lucky ones, Sheba, was rescued prior to her use in an experiment.



Goldie was stolen from her Iowa home. She was rescued from a laboratory after a technician discovered her tattoo. (KSDK-TV, St. Louis, MO)

AFFIDAVIT

Before me Marshall H. Smith, an employee of the United States Department of Agriculture designated by the Secretary of Agriculture under authority of section 1 of the Act of Congress approved January 31, 1925 (43 Stat. 803; 7 U.S.C. 2217), personally appeared Mark A. Yandley, 449 SE 80th Ln. Lamar, MO who deposes and says: 64759

I, Mark A. Yandley, make the following voluntary statement to Marshall H. Smith who has identified himself as an Investigator for the U.S.D.A.

This statement pertains to dogs/cats that I sold to Mr. C.C. Baird during this year (1994) using family members names. I've used the following names: Cindy Straight - (sister-in-law), Larry Yandley - brother, Josh Watkins - step son, Magie Watkins - wife (C.C.), Alma Young - mother-in-law, Delbert & Lairo Freezell - Cindy's brothers, and Dusty Road - brother-in-law. I used these names since I'd already sold 25 ^{dogs/cats} during my business year. Most of these dogs/cats were random source but I did know some. I believe that all of my relatives listed above knew that I was going to use their names for these sales to Mr. Baird. Mr. Baird usually meets me somewhere halfway to pick up dogs/cats. I am an independent supplier and am not Mr. Baird's employee or agent nor am I an agent for any other USDA brokers. I have sold dogs/cats to Mr. Waterbury and maybe one dog to Renny S. (at Salisbury, Mo) I have been in this business about 10 years now.

I am in the process of getting my U.S.D.A. license. My inspector was here for a pre-license inspection on September 26, 1994. He left U.S.D.A. forms so that I could record my purchases from random sources. I haven't kept records for my past sales.

I have read this statement and I affirm that it is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and ability. This is given freely without promise or reward.

Mark A. Yandley
SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

Subscribed and sworn to before me at 449 SE 80th Ln. Lamar, MO 64759 on this 5th day of November 1994

Marshall H. Smith
DESIGNATED PURSUANT TO LAW TO ADMINISTER OATHS, AFFIDAVITS, AND AFFIRMATIONS. AUTHORITY NO. 2604



Smokey was stolen from his Minnesota home, sold by a buncher to a Class B dealer for \$12.00, and then sold to a laboratory. He was rescued before being used in an experiment, but he was extremely ill, and his recovery took many weeks.



Class B dealers obtained Sosha by deception and fraud, posing as providers of a good home. One week later, they sold her to a laboratory where she was killed in a lung injury experiment.

This letter is a rebuttal to the retraction Ms. Beed of Mayo Clinic wished you to print in your newsletter. My dog Isaac was stolen from me and recovered, through sheer dumb luck, at Mayo clinic's research facility in Rochester, MN. The local sheriff in our area, Sheriff Goodnature, never suggested that we look at Mayo Clinic for our dog. The local area pounds suggested that that was possible but improbable, it being 40 miles away.

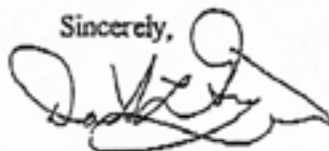
When the dog did not turn up however we called Mayo Clinic and the U of MN research facility both of which said they had no dogs but would take a description. We then called a second time and were told by Mayo that they had no dogs but even if they did they never checked any of the dogs for matching descriptions of any kind. A friend then called a third time and was told there might be dogs so we went to look. At no time did Mayo Clinic invite us to visit or give us any information which could have lead to my dog's recovery.

When I arrived at Mayo Clinic I found no one willing to talk with me (too busy), but I was allowed to look through the holding cages of the dogs they had there, and of which they seemed to have well over 100 dogs. My dog was in the very first row of cages, dripping wet from being hosed down, in a cage too small for him to stand up in. Because he was raised as a single puppy litter his normal lean weight was easily 130 lbs and his head came up to my waist. He had lost 44 pounds according to my vet.

The technicians at Mayo clearly said they would buy any dog that came in, and it is my further understanding that even after Mayo had said it would no longer buy dogs off of the street it was cited for doing just that. Also there was no investigation under way about stolen dogs because mine was the first one found not the third. Also, to my knowledge the USDA was never notified of this theft, nor did I know enough to contact them nor did they ever contact me. I did notify Sheriff Goodnature's office in Austin, as well as a group of other people who were also looking for their dogs. The technicians' immediate reaction to my finding my dog was to call(warn) the dealer that sent them the dog as well as to convince me not to call anyone else except Sheriff Goodnature. I took my dog and went home.

The bottom line on this is very simple. Mayo clinic wants to do research on dogs that are worth a thousand dollars or more a piece but are only willing to pay 100 dollars apiece for them. If I collect ten dogs a day I will make over 300, 000.00 dollars a year. If Mayo clinic uses 5,000 dogs a year for research it has fenced five million dollars worth of dogs for only half a million dollars. Clearly it is in every research facilities best interest to be stupid about where there dogs come from. Further, if things have changed at Mayo, and I hope they have, then let Mayo clinic be one of the first to call for outlawing the use of any nonfarm commonly domesticated pets as research material. Untill then I will call for it, as well as be willing to sign an affidavit or testify in court that this is what happened to me and my dog.

Sincerely,



Dave Grignon
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Chanhassen, MN 55317
612-937-9065.



Stolen from his kennel and sold to a random source dealer, Isaac lost 44 pounds before he was recovered at a Minnesota laboratory. A statement from Isaac's owner is on the facing page.



Roxie was purchased for \$10.00 by a Washington State Class B dealer who said he would provide a good home for her. He later sold Roxie to a university laboratory for \$200 where she was used in an experiment and killed.
(KING-TV, Seattle, WA)