

**OTTER TAIL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NUMBER:** 08010421  
**OFFENSE CATEGORY:** Animal Welfare  
**COMPLAINANT:** Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
**DEPUTY:** Detective Keith Van Dyke #324

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**PRINCIPALS:** **Reporter**  
Smith, Jason NMN  
Dob: [REDACTED]  
White adult male  
Contact Information:  
C.A.P.S-Companion Animal Protection Society

**Mentioned**  
USDA Regional Office  
Contact Person: Dr. Goldentyer  
USDA/APHIS-Animal Care  
920 Campus Drive, Suite 200  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
Phone: 919-855-7100

**COPY**

**Mentioned**  
Dr. Debra Sime /UDSA Representative  
Phone: 703-812-6023 (w)

**DETAILS:**

On Friday, May 30, 2008 at approximately 1145 hours, I met with Jason Smith at the Otter Tail County Law Enforcement Center. Jason Smith no longer works at the Pick of the Litter Kennels and his personal information can be disclosed at this time.

In my original report, I indicated that the organization C.A.P.S. is located in California, but I was mistaken and the location of the CAPS organization is in Maryland.

Upon meeting with Jason, I obtained his personal information and three computer disks which catalog his activity and observations at the Pick of the Litter Kennels. Jason stated to me that he is concerned over two dogs that are currently at the kennel; one dog is a brown and white female English Bulldog

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with the name "Maggie" and the second dog is a white female Bichon. Both dogs have health problems and based on past experiences at the Pick of the Litter Kennels, Jason did not believe these dogs will receive any kind of medical care. Jason does catalog the health conditions of these two dogs in his reports which are on the computer CD's.

Jason stated that much of the same has been going on at the kennel since his first report. There are dogs with health problems that do not receive medical care. There are dogs treated in a cruel way such as being dipped in insecticide while the dogs have open wounds. Jason observed dogs being put in kennels together in which dogs do fight and the resulting wounds are not treated by Kathy Bauck or her daughter Corrine.

I did review the additional information received by Jason Smith. The report completed by Jason Smith indicates that he observed three dogs with deteriorating health conditions which were eventually euthanized by an employee at the kennels by the first name of Alan (sp). The animals were put down by the use of a firearm.

Jason indicates that there was an English Mastiff dog located in the red barn on May 14<sup>th</sup> with open sores on its elbows. This dog was due to be dipped in the insecticide; however, Jason showed the dog to Kathy and when Kathy saw the wounds on the dog, she then ripped a large chunk of flesh off one of the dog's elbows. This dog would have been dipped; however, Kathy decided to try and treat the wounds with Iromec spray. Jason noted that the spray did not improve the condition of the dog's wounds.

Later on May 19<sup>th</sup>, Jason noticed that the same dog with the wounds on the elbows now had sores on its ears.

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, Jason observed the dog coughing up blood and having seizures. Also on this date, Kathy made the determination to put the dog down. Kathy stated that Alan would put the dog down and before Alan did this, one other dog was brought to him by Kathy which was a Shih Tzu dog with an eye injury. Alan then got a 3<sup>rd</sup> dog which was a Pug that was also put down. These three dogs were put down by Alan by use of a firearm.

Jason also noted that there was a bulldog with an eye injury in which this dog was dipped in the insecticide by Corrine on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Jason also noted that there was an English Mastiff dog also dipped in the insecticide that had wounds.

Jason also noted that there were times when the dogs were treated cruelly. In one incident a large dog was due to be dipped in the insecticide tank and the dog struggled and was then thrown into the tank and the side of the dog hit the lip of the tank. Dogs were also dragged to and from the dip tank and Jason also observed Kathy pulling one dog by its ears into a cage.

Jason also noted that Kathy Bauck keeps approximately one dozen dogs in elevated cages in the woods near the kennels. It is unclear why this is being done.

Jason also noted that a Pug dog with an infected eyeball on April 30<sup>th</sup>, deteriorated in health until May 14<sup>th</sup> when the dog was culled by Kathy.

Jason noted that a Shih Tzu with a dislodged eyeball was noted by him on May 11<sup>th</sup> was finally killed on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

On May 26th, Jason noted that a Yorkie and Bichon dog were fighting in a kennel. He ran to separate the dogs and he noted that there was no medical care for the Bichon which had received injuries during the fight. The Bichon's health problems from the fight had deteriorated until the point where on May 28th, Jason noted that the Bichon dog was circling in its cage and falling down. This is one of the dogs that Jason is concerned about.

Another bulldog "Maggie" had serious wounds to its face and ears from the dog continually rubbing this area either with its paws or against the cage. Corrine determined that the dog had allergies and cannot be treated. An employee by the first name of "Alan" also noted that the dog may be allergic to the wood shavings.

On May 26th, Jason noted the health of the Bichon dog as emaciated and looking lethargic.

On May 27th, two dogs were fighting in kennels near the Bichon dog which was in a cage. Jason separated the dogs which were fighting and Kathy had assisted him. Jason notes this incident because Kathy was in a position to clearly see the deteriorating health of the bulldog "Maggie"; however, she did nothing and did not comment on the dog's health.

As of May 28th, the bulldog by the name of "Maggie" still has not received any medical care.

After receiving the original report from Jason Smith, I did contact the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and was put in touch with Dr. Debra Sime a representative of the UDSA. Dr. Sime communicated to me that she was familiar with Kathy Bauck's puppy mill and I requested that she review the report completed by Jason Smith. After I emailed the report to Dr. Sime on May 29, 2008, I received a phone call from Dr. Sime and she requested that I send the reports and a copy of the CD's to the UDSA Regional Office in Raleigh, NC so that a formal complaint could be received and documented.

Jason Smith has terminated his employment at the Pick of the Litter Kennels and is no longer in the area. He can be contacted through the C.A.P.S. organization and a contact person at the C.A.P.S. is Debra Howard.

At this time I would request that this report be forwarded to the County Attorney's Office for review of possible criminal charges against Kathy Bauck and her daughter Corrine Peters. At this time I'm not certain who is the listed owner of the puppy mill; however, I will attempt to determine this at a later date. It should also be noted that copies of the CD's received by Jason Smith have been given to the County Attorney's Office by this detective. Copies of the CD's will also be forwarded to Dr. Sime and the USDA Regional Office in North Carolina.

**EVIDENCE / RECORDINGS:** (3) Computer disks received from Jason Smith

**STATUS:** Refer to County Attorney for review

**COPY**

Detective Keith Van Dyke #324  
Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
KV/ law: 05/30/08 @ 1502 hrs. ADM3

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FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NUMBER:** 08010421  
**OFFENSE CATEGORY:** Animal Welfare  
**COMPLAINANT:** Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
**DEPUTY:** Detective Keith Van Dyke #324

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**DETAILS:**

On Monday, 06/02/08, I received an e-mail from Jason Smith that included the daily log from 05/02/08. The logs indicate a conversation that Jason had with Kathy where she stated that the kennel business was sold to her daughter, Corinne, last Monday. She also indicated to Jason in conversations on 05/02/08 that she knew when inspectors were coming to kennels and when that time period would come, a clean up of the kennels would happen. Basically, Kathy indicated that she would fool the inspectors and get by the inspection by cleaning up just before the inspector arrived.

It does appear that Corinne is most likely the owner of the kennels at this time. I would request that this report be forwarded to the County Attorney's Office along with a copy of the e-mail sent by Jason Smith which will be added to the case file.

Copies of the CD's and reports have been sent to the USDA Regional Office. Reports and CD's have also been sent to Dr. Sime.

**EVIDENCE / RECORDINGS :** E-mail received from Jason Smith on 06/02/08.

**STATUS:** Forward to County Attorney's Office.

**COPY**

Detective Keith Van Dyke #324  
Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
KV/clg 06/03/08 @ 1256 hrs. ADM/4

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FOLLOW UP INVESTIGATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NUMBER:** 08010421  
**OFFENSE CATEGORY:** Animal Welfare  
**COMPLAINANT:** OTC Sheriff's Office  
**DEPUTY:** Detective Keith Van Dyke #324

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**PRINCIPALS:** **Mentioned**  
Veterinarian Dr. William M. Rose, DVM  
Lakeland Veterinarian Clinic

**COPY**

**DETAILS:**

On Thursday, June 12, 2008 at approximately 0815 hours, I talked with Dr. Rose at his clinic just north of Perham, MN. I requested that Dr. Rose review the reports provided to me by Jason Smith and then provide me with his professional opinion as to whether or not the animals described in the reports were being treated cruelly or abused.

On Thursday, June 19, 2008 I received a faxed letter from Dr. Rose in which Dr. Rose states that he had reviewed the reports and believed that the animals are being treated cruelly and abused, and the animals can only be seen as being in an abusive situation. The letter does indicate that I talked with Dr. Rose on June 1, 2008—that is incorrect, I did speak with Dr. Rose on June 12, 2008.

This letter will be forwarded to the Otter Tail County Attorney's Office for their review. A copy of the letter will also be placed with this case file.

**STOLEN PROPERTY/ESTIMATE OF DAMAGES TO PROPERTY SECTION**

<u>Description</u>	<u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Make/Model/Brand</u>	<u>Value</u>
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**EVIDENCE:** Letter provided by Dr. Rose.

**STATUS:** Refer to County Attorney for review.

Detective Keith Van Dyke #324  
Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
KV/ law: 06/20/08 @ 1336 hrs. ADM5 19279

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**COMPLAINANT:** Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
**DEPUTY:** Detective Keith Van Dyke #324

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**PRINCIPALS:** Suspect  
Bauck, Kathy Jo  
Dob: [REDACTED]

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**DETAILS:**

On 06/27/08, I was contacted by Kathy Bauck concerning an individual who worked at the kennels who may have been working for an animal rights group. Kathy wanted to explain to me about some of the things she'd seen this employee do and she believed that some of the allegations being made about her kennel at this time, were actually things that this undercover employee had done. Kathy also stated that other current employees had witnessed some questionable activity by the undercover employee.

I requested of Kathy to get with her employees and have them all write out written statements. I wanted these statements to be signed and the personal information of each individual on the statement. Kathy stated that she not only would get the statements from the employees, but would have them notarized.

I explained to Kathy that I would talk with her on the following Monday and at that time I would obtain the letters from her and if she wanted, she could provide a statement to me about her concerns of the undercover employee. Kathy indicated that would be fine and she would await my call on Monday.

On Monday, June 30, 2008, I contacted Kathy and an interview time was setup for early this Monday morning; however, Kathy called and left a voice message for me at the Fergus Falls Law Enforcement Center indicating that she had talked with her lawyer and now decided that she would not provide any statement to me or provide any statements from her employees, and that she was advised by her lawyer to go another route in challenging the accusations of the undercover employee.

I would request that this report be forwarded to Assistant County Attorney Heather Brandborg for her review.

**EVIDENCE / RECORDINGS:**

**STATUS:** Refer to County Attorney for review.



Detective Keith Van Dyke #324  
Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office  
KV/ law: 07/01/08 @ 1426 hrs. ADM6 19445

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