



Inspection Report

ELENA MIKIRTICHEVA ANDREY MIKIRTICHEV
3000 BENSLEY RD
NORTH CHESTERFIELD, VA 23237

Customer ID: **500902**
Certificate: **52-B-0175**
Site: 001
ANDREY MIKIRTICHEV

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 03-APR-2023

2.40(a)(1)

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

Regularly scheduled visits to the facility by the attending veterinarian are not occurring. The facility's written program of veterinary care indicates that regularly scheduled visits to the premises by the veterinarian are to occur annually, however the attending veterinarian has not been to the facility in 14 months and there is no upcoming scheduled site visit according to the attending veterinarian.

Completing regularly scheduled visits by the attending veterinarian to the premise where animals are housed is necessary so that the attending veterinarian can evaluate housing and husbandry provided to animals and ensure the adequacy of all aspects of animal care and use. Correct by ensuring that the program of veterinary care is followed and that regular visits to the premises by the attending veterinarian are occurring at the frequency defined in the program, but not less than annually. Correct by May 5, 2023.

2.40(a)(2)

Repeat

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

The licensee is still not providing the attending veterinarian (AV) appropriate authority over the veterinary care of the animals at the facility. According to medical records, George, a male 5-year-old, French Bulldog microchip #992001000364968 was diagnosed heartworm positive on March 21, 2023. As part of his medical treatment plan, the

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attending veterinarian instructed the licensee to restrict George's activity. At the time of inspection George was housed with another dog in his normal approximately 10 ft. by 23 ft. dog run. George was seen running around, panting, and interacting with his enclosure mate.

Failure to ensure that the attending veterinarian has appropriate authority over the veterinary care of the animals can lead to unnecessary pain and suffering of the animals. Correct by ensuring the attending veterinarian has appropriate authority over the veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use.

2.40(b)(3) Direct Repeat

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care (dealers and exhibitors).

Four cats had medical conditions that had not been identified or treated by the facility prior to the inspection.

**An 8-year-old adult female white long-haired cat #900215000825306 exhibited foul breath and had severely reddened and swollen gums at the upper and lower jaw and especially towards the back of the mouth. Several front teeth were missing. The cat exhibited pain and sensitivity of the gums by retracting its head when the gums were palpated.

** One two-year-old adult female calico #900215001896851 had moderately reddened and swollen gums easily visible along the entirety of the upper and lower jaws.

** One approximately 5-month-old juvenile female long-haired orange cat #900215000885627 also had moderately reddened and swollen gums easily visible along the entirety of the upper and lower jaws.

** One male cat, orange tabby #90021500825313, was found to have missing fur and superficial scratch wounds at the back of his neck. There was also chronic tear staining and clear drainage from the right eye.

None of these health issues were found during daily observations and none have been reported to the attending veterinarian; there are no current treatment plans in place according to the licensee.

Animals with untreated medical conditions including dental and skin problems may suffer from unnecessary pain, discomfort, infection, and stress. Daily observations of animals to identify medical problems is essential to identify injury

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and illness quickly, initiate treatment quickly, and prevent unnecessary suffering. Correct by observing all animals at least daily to identify physical, medical, or behavioral problems. Additionally, ensure that all findings are communicated in a timely manner to the attending veterinarian so that they can examine animals and ensure that appropriate treatment is provided as required by section 2.40(b)(2).

3.1(c)(1)

Housing facilities, general.

Multiple primary enclosures in the facility contain sharp points and aren't constructed in a manner that allows them to be readily cleaned and sanitized or replaced when worn or soiled. Two rooms, housing 11 adult cats, have painted wooden trim and windowsills that have been scratched, chewed, and have large areas of flaking paint, exposing unsealed wood. Five out of six outdoor dog enclosures have walls that are made of several different materials including: wire, unsealed wood, and plastic lattice. The walls have multiple sharp points caused by broken or bent wire which could cause injury to the dogs. Additionally, the areas of unsealed wood are unable to be properly sanitized and can not be easily replaced when worn and soiled.

Housing facilities which contain sharp points can cause injury to animals. Unsealed surfaces that cannot be properly sanitized may lead to illness. Correct by ensuring that all surfaces of housing facilities are constructed in a manner and made of materials that allow them to be readily cleaned and sanitized or removed and replaced when worn or soiled. Interior surfaces must also be free of jagged edges or sharp points that might injure the animals. Correct by May 2, 2023.

3.1(e)

Repeat

Housing facilities, general.

Food is not being stored in a manner to prevent spoilage, contamination, or vermin infestation. In the main house in the primary bedroom, where 1 adult cat is housed, there are multiple bags of dry cat food being stored on a bed and surrounded by accumulated household materials. In the same room, there is a bag of dry dog food being stored directly

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on the floor.

Improper food storage that does not allow access for cleaning and visualization of containers to ensure no damage or vermin invasion can result in food spoilage and spread of disease. Correct by ensuring that all food is stored off the floor and away from walls to allow cleaning underneath and around the supplies.

3.3(e)(1)

Sheltered housing facilities.

The floors, walls and perches of the outdoor portion, or "catios", of the two sheltered cat enclosures are constructed of permeable, unstained and unsealed wood. Surfaces permeable to moisture cannot be properly cleaned and/or sanitized as contaminated material can penetrate into the surfaces.

Having surfaces in contact with the animals that cannot be properly cleaned and sanitized can expose the cats to unnecessary disease hazards. Correct by ensuring that all outdoor areas in contact with the animals are properly constructed or sealed so as to be impervious to moisture and able to be properly cleaned and sanitized in accordance with 3.11(b). Correct by June 1, 2023.

3.4(a)(1)(ii)

Outdoor housing facilities.

Ten French Bulldogs are kept in outdoor housing without specific approval by the attending veterinarian (AV). Short nosed dogs such as French Bulldogs are highly susceptible to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. This breed which is both small and short-haired, also does not tolerate cold temperatures for extended periods of time.

According to Weather Underground (wunderground.com) history for Richmond, VA, temperatures reached an average high of 90 degrees Fahrenheit with a maximum of 98 degrees Fahrenheit in July of 2022. During December 2022 the temperatures had an average low of 31 degrees Fahrenheit with a minimum of 8 degrees Fahrenheit in December of 2022. The temperatures prevalent in this area are likely to cause stress and discomfort both during winter cold periods

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and summer heat. The attending veterinarian has not provided approval for housing these animals in outdoor housing facilities, and when asked stated that she was uncomfortable with housing the French Bulldogs outdoors.

Cold weather and hot weather can have a severe impact on the health and welfare of small, short nosed dogs. Dogs which are not acclimated to the local temperatures or cannot tolerate those temperatures because of breed, age, or illness are therefore likely to experience discomfort, distress, or illness as a result of outdoor housing. Correct by ensuring that only dogs that are appropriate for outdoor housing, as specifically approved by the attending veterinarian, are housed in outdoor housing. Correct by April 21, 2023.

3.6(a)(2)(iii) Critical

Primary enclosures.

The primary dog enclosures do not contain the animals securely and the facility has lost two female French bulldogs after they managed to escape their enclosures.

Two female French bulldogs (microchip # 643094800023001 and # 900215000815035) were reported by the licensee to have escaped from their enclosures and lost on 11-15-2022 and 7-13-2022, respectively. One was documented on the facility disposition records as "ran away" while the second was just recorded with a disposition date (no disposition method). Neither animal was recovered by the licensee.

The three middle dog enclosures have walls made of multiple different materials including: wire, raw wood, and plastic lattice and are approximately 4.5 ft high. During the inspection, a male 8-month-old French bulldog microchip #900215000885840 was found out of his enclosure and in an adjacent pen with an intact female French bulldog "Tina" microchip# 900113000387375. After being replaced in his enclosure, he was seen jumping and scaling the fence between the enclosures, balanced at the top.

Animals that are able to escape their primary enclosures can become seriously injured, lost, or end up in another

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enclosure with an incompatible animal. Correct by ensuring that all primary enclosures for dogs and cats are constructed and maintained so that they contain the dogs and cats securely. Correct by April 16, 2023.

3.6(b)(1)(i)

Primary enclosures.

Three primary cat enclosures (enclosure #1: one adult; enclosure #2: 1 adult and 4 kittens; enclosure #3: 1 adult and 3 kittens) do not provide the minimum height required by the Animal Welfare Act. The enclosures are elevated, two-level metal cages that measure 37" wide by 25" deep by 21" high. Each primary enclosure must be at least 24" high to allow for normal postural adjustments and provide adequate space for elevated resting platforms. Correct by ensuring all primary enclosures housing cats are at least 24" high. Correct by April 16, 2023.

3.6(b)(2)

Repeat

Primary enclosures.

More than 12 adult non-conditioned cats are being housed in the same primary enclosure. Two intact male cats are kept with 13 breeding female cats. One male cat, orange tabby #90021500825313, was found to have missing fur and superficial scratch wounds at the back of his neck. The licensee stated that they believe the wounds were from the other male cat in the enclosure and that they have exhibited episodes of intolerance towards one another in the past, especially during breeding season.

Incompatibility amongst animals sharing an enclosure can lead to chronic stress and injury. Defensive aggression and fighting between adult male unneutered cats is a well-known phenomenon and can lead to severe injury and even death. All cats housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible, as determined by observation. Correct by ensuring all cats housed in the same primary enclosure are compatible.

3.6(b)(4)

Primary enclosures.

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Six primary cat enclosures, housing a total of 22 cats, do not contain an elevated resting surface(s). Lack of such surfaces can negatively impact the well-being of the animals as they provide the opportunity for the species to exhibit some of their natural behaviors and decrease stress. Correct by ensuring each primary enclosure housing cats contains an elevated resting surface or surfaces that are impervious to moisture, easily cleaned, sanitized, or replaced when soiled or worn, and are large enough to hold all the occupants of the primary enclosure at the same time comfortably. Correct by April 16, 2023.

3.11(c) Repeat
Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control.

There continues to be accumulated junk and debris in non-animal areas of the facility. In the main yard there are piles of dismantled and whole animal carriers, some with stagnant water and layers of algae visible. In the cat house at the rear of the property, the kitchen area is cluttered with tools, household supplies, cleaners, empty bottles and trash. The floor has a thick layer of dust and grime.

Piles and accumulations of discarded waste and junk on the premises can contribute to pest infestation and serve as source of injury to humans and animals on the property. Correct by ensuring that animal housing facilities, buildings and surrounding grounds are kept clean and in good repair, so as to protect animals from injury, facilitate good husbandry practices and reduce the risk of pest breeding.

3.12
Employees

There does not appear to be a sufficient number of adequately trained employees to carry out the work of the facility to an acceptable level required by the AWA. There are two people primarily responsible for the care of over 100 animals at this facility. There are numerous non-compliances identified pertaining to the housing, animal husbandry and daily observation, as well as record keeping at this facility. These ongoing issues seen are consistent with shortages of

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personnel.

Insufficient personnel can lead to a failure in maintenance of the facility, delayed care of animals, and ultimately unnecessary suffering. Correct by ensuring a sufficient number of adequately trained employees are utilized to maintain the professionally acceptable level of husbandry practices set forth in this subpart. Correct by June 1, 2023.

3.13(b)(3)

Veterinary care for dogs.

The medical records for the dogs do not include information about treatments or vaccines administered:

**The names of medical treatments and dates they are administered are not being recorded. At the time of inspection, several dogs were under treatment by the attending veterinarian for skin and ear infections. The licensee states that the medications have been administered in accordance with the prescription however there is no written record of treatments.

**The name and date of administration of all required vaccinations described in the program of veterinary care are not being recorded.

Adequate record keeping is necessary to ensure the health of animals and to ensure that the guidance of the attending veterinarian is being followed. Correct by recording the names of all vaccines and treatments administered and the dates of administration. Correct by April 7th, 2023.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the licensee.

Additional Inspectors:

Rachel Perez-Baum, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Sarah Roloff, ANIMAL CARE INSPECTOR

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
500902	52-B-0175	001	ANDREY MIKIRTICHEV	03-APR-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000010	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	DOG ADULT
000075	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	CAT ADULT
000017	<i>Felis silvestris catus</i>	CAT KITTEN
000102	Total	