

RE: 1705-19166/DJS/ATTACHMENT 10

Brandon Cox <gentlecare77@att.net>

May 19



to me

thank you for that response. It has been an adventure dealing with the various govt agencies. All have been very nice and completely professional. As it turns out, you have been right about more than we have!
We thought we were doing a meticulous job with the health certs, and for the USDA criteria we were. We really didn't know about the completely different set of requirements for sale. Frankly, I strongly disagree with the vaccine protocols necessary to sell kittens and puppies. I feel like there is always an unintended consequence to unnecessary treatments. As a result, we as a group vaccinate minimally, and treat as clean as possible. We're not holistic or anything, in fact probably the other direction, but I feel sometimes \$\$ might drive a treatment protocol, where good medicine, and good sense should prevail. That said, we now know that for sale Rabies has to be given by 12 weeks. I really hate the thought of giving that and then shipping. But I guess that's the new reality. We even have to worm them, even if no parasites are found-not wild about that rule either. So at 3/31 when I saw the kittens, I examined them well and tested them, etc but found no parasites. I guess the proper protocol was another frcvp and a rabies-according to the lemon law state statute. All others, pets etc, are allowed to wait till 16 weeks when we feel a vaccine will be better tolerated. So, thanks to you-we did learn a lot, and will now modify our breeder programs. Luckily we only have a few and they will flee-which is good with us-because most vets down here don't follow this protocol exactly.I will finish the new litter of mr Pelletier, and then will ask him to find other help, and he says he's not going to sell anymore sight unseen. I think the usda vet told him, and then she told me that he would not need health certs if they were picked up, but that couldn't be further from the truth. We knew that they needed them, but didn't understand the more cumbersome requirements from the lemon law. We should probably send you flowers! If we quit seeing breeders, that would make life so much easier. They want everything 1/2 price and never want to follow the rules.
As for the dates, my main hc guy Nate, says Mr Pelletier asked him to reissue one of the certs. He does not think he dated it may 3, but I don't think its impossible. The statute says that a HC can be issued up to 30 days after the exam, that would be 32. Not correct, but not criminal either. He's worried to death now that he'll be fired over this, and although it is a brewhaha, for sure, these people are my family. I'd never do that, and ultimately it is my responsibility, my license, my business.He is pretty sure he only changed the date on one, so ?? Maybe he did redispense 2 and its SO not like him to not update ages and other info. Mr pelletier can be challenging at times, and I think Nate was just trying to accommodate him. So again, you are right about a lot of this stuff, and other aspects remain unresolved (The fleas!!)
Im happy to speak further, I can try to resolve the pedigree issue for you if you wish, but the less I have to do with this matter the happier I will be-as long as you end up with healthy happy babies.
thank you again, you made us find out we weren't doing something right, and fix it, so you fixed us too, Brandon



Tia Mapes-Gonnella <tiamapesgonnella@gmail.com>

May 19



to Brandon

Brandon

I am glad you found something positive in this whole mess. I do want you to know that it was never my intention to have your practice scrutinized at all. In fact, it was the opposite; Mr. Pelletier stated he didn't require a contract to alter which I thought was odd, nor did he offer health guarantees, which I kind of get -even though the CFA standards suggest he should, as breeder- but it's not like I would ever have returned them had their health deteriorated in the future. And his form of payment he required was a little shady (direct deposit into his bank account ---no PayPal, no checks, essentially nothing that would serve as a receipt.)

More worrisome was that Mr Pelletier was inconsistent in so many of his emails regarding their mother, and their DOB (I've been given 4 different ones as of today) and their pedigree...

He became a little miffed when I inquired about a pedigree because he thought my true intentions were to breed the boys--couldnt be further from the truth. I explained the catalyst behind my interest was driven by the death of my Siamese, Sushi, a few weeks back. Honestly I was pretty ignorant of breeders altogether, and also about the genetic conditions to which purebreds are prone. Sushi was only 6 when he passed and he suffered from what I now understand was a combination of genetic diseases. I only wish I had educated myself on the hereditary propensities unique to Siamese. I'm afraid that it is not something my vet was well versed in either and some of his treatment may have facilitated his death in the end. And had I been aware, perhaps I could have been more prepared. I certainly wouldn't have insisted on a full code. They resuscitated him 5 times in 2 days. I wouldn't have put him though it had I understood what was happening. I've had a hard time forgiving myself for what he suffered as a result. Sushi was to me, what I imagine a child is like to parents. His loss has been devastating and I plan on being prepared with these two, now known as Miso and Saki.

My objective was, once armed with the pedigree, to visit a website I discovered (<http://www.siamese.subali-klm.com>) that generates health pedigrees based on diagnoses provided by the breeders, owners, and pathology results submitted by the University of Pennsylvania, UC Davis, and other institutions focusing on purebred genetic disease research. Simply so that I will be better equipped to make informed decisions about their healthcare in the future should it take an unfortunate turn.

When the kittens arrived in the state they did, and the paperwork was riddled with inconsistencies..I couldn't help but wonder how many other kittens were at his cattery without receiving even basic care. If he didn't treat them for fleas and the sight of them suffering with all of those

E: 1705-19166/DJS/ATTACHMENT 10

parasites all over their little bodies didn't break his heart, I wondered how likely it was that he actually had the kittens examined/vaccinated at all. And you hear horror stories of breeders culling their line by hastily unloading "defective purebreds" to unsuspecting buyers. His lack of response and my natural concern for the others is what prompted my inquiries with the USDA and State regarding animal welfare.

Not once have I or do I intend to lay claim to any lemon law, I've not asked to be reimbursed for the vet fees I've incurred nor to be refunded for the kittens. I don't intend to give them back. I love them already. And from what I can tell Mr. Pelletier was likely a reputable breeder, and while it may have nothing to do with it, I couldn't help but notice his posts on social media boasting of his 20-something "fiance" in Russia to whom he reportedly sends thousands of dollars. It was these very posts that not only made me feel sad for him but reinforced my instinct that this man, despite how shady his payment instructions were, was not scamming me. Because a real scammer would not likely fall victim to an obvious scam being executed by a gold digging girl from Russia and her handsome "brothers".

It made me consider that he may be investing his time and money into something other than his cattery. Age and loneliness and mortality can make people do strange things. Its really the only scenario that makes sense. In the end, I don't think his intention was to falsify documents, I think he just didn't want to take the time and spend the money on two new certificates. Ultimately I just wanted the other kittens to be safe, to know what vaccinations they've had and how old they are and whether the pedigree is valid so I'm not wasting time researching someone else's ancestry.

I hope that gives you a better idea of where I was coming from in all this, it wasn't to stir things up for any reason other than concern for Miso and Saki and I am sorry that your practice was caught in the wake. I don't intend to pursue this any further,--tell Nate to take a deep breath :) ... I have the information that I need. As far as the pedigree--the CFA confirmed that neither the kittens nor their mother were registered so any pedigree information would be based on the weight of Mr Pelletier's word and unfortunately he has forever lost credibility with me.

I do want to thank you for being so candid and I very much appreciate the time you've taken to explain everything. Please send my apologies to your group for the trouble this has caused and my gratitude for everyone's patience, especially yours!

Tia

PS Miso and Saki are happy and healthy-they really are the brightest part of every day. Hopefully the attached pictures will add a bit of light to the end of what sounds like a long day.