

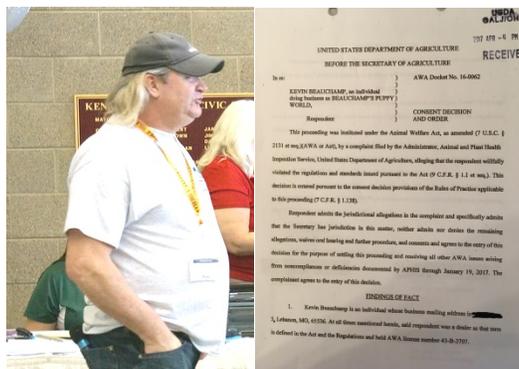
President of Missouri Pet Breeders Association Fined \$6,000 for Violations of the Animal Welfare Act



This past March, the Missouri Pet Breeders Association (MPBA), which serves as the trade association and lobbying arm for the commercial dog breeding industry in the state, elected a new president, Kevin Beauchamp, operator of Beauchamp's Puppy World.

One month later, in April, Mr. Beauchamp was issued a cease and desist order, license suspension and fined \$6,000 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for chronic violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

USDA filed legal action against Mr. Beauchamp for among other things very thin dogs as well as failing to provide care to injured dogs. Beauchamp repeatedly refused to allow USDA inspectors into the kennel. When inspectors eventually gained access to the kennel on May 4, 2016, they found multiple dogs in need of veterinary care. The dogs included two boxers who were very thin with their ribs easily visible, a bulldog with a reddened eye that had a "mass-like lesion" beside it, and a Lhasa Apso who appeared lethargic and who appeared to have such severe dental disease that it might be affecting her ability to eat normally.



Kevin Beauchamp, President of the MPBA

USDA's complaint alleges that, even after receiving an Official Warning in 2014 for failing to provide adequate veterinary care to his dogs, Beauchamp continued to fail to meet that obligation at four additional inspections between April 14, 2014 and Dec. 15, 2015. The complaint also noted that Beauchamp failed on three different occasions between April 2014 and November 2014 to provide

minimum care standards, such as adequate bedding to protect dogs from the cold, adequate cleaning of fecal material, and safe enclosures. A state inspection by the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) in February 2017 discovered another injured dog. **Beauchamp’s license was eventually suspended in April of this year by USDA until he could come into compliance and he was fined \$6,000 and issued a cease and desist order.**

Prior to becoming president of MPBA, Mr. Beauchamp served as its vice-president and was responsible for the MPBA’s “Elite Kennel Program.” This program was established by MPBA to highlight the best kennels in the state and to serve as a marketing tool to convince the public of quality care at commercial dog breeding facilities. Breeders meeting the requirements of “Elite Kennels” have to pledge, “that all animals in their care will receive the best of care...for the best health and welfare of their animals.” Elite Kennels are awarded a “Paw” for complying with each of the ten requirements that Elite Kennels are encouraged to follow. **MPBA’s website currently lists Mr. Beauchamp’s kennel as having the maximum of 10 Paws despite repeated violations concerning the health and welfare of his animals.**

Name Last, First	Kennel Name	Levels Completed	Levels											
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Allen, Deborah		10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Arnet, Brenda	Spurin A Mini Aussies, LLC TM.	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Beauchamp, Kevin	Beauchamp’s Puppies	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Beauchamp, Linda		10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Breedlove, Alisa	Breedlove’s Unique Kennel	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Brower, Tamara		10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Buck, Linda – Lloyd	Buck Kennels	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Davis, Aleica		10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Gegner, Kay	Larka Australian Shepherd	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Grosenbacher, Debbie	Bling on the Aussies	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Grosenbacher, Hank		10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Kimbrough, Juanita		10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Murrell, Deb	Murrell Kennel	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Nilges, Chris & Ginger	Nilges Kennel	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Quinn, Ann	Dreammaker Kennels	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Renew Rys, Alicia	Rys Rys N Hy Kennel	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Slaughter, Judy	Sunvalley Kennel	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾
Swanigan, Sue	King’s Kids Kennels	10	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾	🐾

11-28-16

The immediate past president of the MPBA, Hank Grosenbacher, is also listed as an Elite Kennel and received 10 Paws. **While the stated aim of the Elite Kennel program is to improve the health and welfare of animals confined in commercial dog breeding facilities, Grosenbacher has lobbied the past few years to suspend many of the provisions of the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act (CCPA).** It was reported that at one MPBA meeting in 2015, *Grosenbacher encouraged dog breeders not to come into compliance with the 2016 requirements of the CCPA that mandated an increase in living space for dogs and the elimination of wire flooring in kennels.* Subsequently, Grosenbacher, on behalf of the MPBA, presented a list of demands to the Legislature and to the Missouri Department of Agriculture that were intended to weaken the inspection process. Grosenbacher also insisted that there be a postponement in the implementation of the standards of care as mandated by the CCPA. Grosenbacher even demanded that breeders be given advance notice of state inspections.

Fortunately, the MPBA was unsuccessful in achieving its demands due to the efforts of the Alliance.



Hank Grosenbacher, Immediate Past President of the MPBA

Grosenbacher operates “Heartland Sales” which is an auction service for commercial dog breeders. This auction is a frequent source of complaints concerning the sale of sick animals. In addition, the veterinarian employed by Grosenbacher has been observed using the same needle over and over again on multiple dogs while administering rabies vaccinations to the dogs prior to the sale. One dog that was obviously ill and exhibiting purulent discharge was vaccinated and that same needle was used over again on multiple dogs and the veterinarian wore no exam gloves or washed her hands between the handling of numerous dogs throughout the auction. One veterinarian, who has attended the auction, described the hygienic practices at Heartland Sales as “appalling.”

MPBA has a long history of nefarious dog breeders in leadership positions. Below is a sampling of just some of the actions against various officers and officials over the past 20 years:

- Vice President suspended and fined by AKC for falsifying records.
- Chapter President was charged by USDA for multiple violations and suspended by AKC for 10 years.
- Regional Director had 182 dogs confiscated due to inhumane treatment. The dogs were suffering and in critical need of veterinary care. Received \$10,000 fine and banned from breeding.
- Chapter President was charged by USDA with multiple violations of the Animal Welfare Act and fined \$2,000 and license suspended.

Just this past month, a high ranking USDA official lamented the fact that the leadership of the dog breeding industry “*has always been bad in Missouri.*”

It is exactly for this reason that the industry needs to be strictly regulated and monitored to ensure the humane care of the dogs confined in puppy mills. The industry is totally void of competent leadership and there are no real efforts by the industry to clean itself up.

Please help ensure stringent oversight of puppy mills in the state, by contacting the Missouri Department of Agriculture and Governor Greitens and requesting that the state *continue* to enforce all of its current regulations and to *continue* unannounced inspections.

→ See More info on this in E-Newsletter (Reminder: Special Alert) ←