

Angel's Gate Investigation, 2010

Excerpts from the Investigator's Log Notes

Friday, November 26, 2010

- I did not see any means of identification, medical records, feeding records, cage cards, room identification, head counts, or any other ways to track what animals belong where and what animals are being treated for what conditions. Generally, the facility appeared to be a disorganized free-for-all and there was no resemblance to a shelter, sanctuary, or hospice. There were many wheel chair carts available for dogs, but I did not see one dog utilizing a cart today. ... Old animals were housed with young animals, active animals were housed with non-ambulatory animals, and fractious and aggressive animals were housed with submissive animals. There was no disease control, parasite control, or zoonotic control, and it did not appear that such controls were possible with the high population in the overcrowded confines of such a ... facility.

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

- Scooter, the male English bulldog who drags his back feet, had deep inflamed and infected ulcers on both feet. ... Scooter had cubital ulcers on his penis that look like large holes. The cubital ulcers on his back feet have large holes on them also. ... I noticed that the Angel's Gate Web site has a picture of Scooter as a puppy and he appears much healthier in it.

Thursday, December 2, 2010

- Tuxie had blood and tissue spattered on the walls and floor like I find every day. Tuxie had an ocular discharge and nasal discharge, as I reported on prior occasions. ... Susan said that the wound is not infected, yet the appearance, odor, and Tuxie's demeanor, in my extensive experience with animals and providing professional veterinary care to them, tell me otherwise. Tuxie is very ill and he needs extensive care; picking his scabs and watching him deteriorate in the cage for two years is not helping him. ... So many of the dogs need veterinary care beyond the care necessary for their main condition or handicap. Jeanie's mouth is full of infection, which is obviously due to the purulent discharge running down the left side of her mouth. The stench coming from her mouth is nauseating.

Friday, December 3, 2010

- I was cleaning the cribs and found four cribs that housed dogs that did not have water or a water bowl in them. Only one crib had water. The dogs were confined in cribs that were full of urine and fecal material. The cribs are not safe for the dogs. Their legs and heads can get stuck in the bars. I have removed Casey's leg from between the bars before. There is no escape if multiple dogs confined in a crib are attacked or fight. Star was in a crib in the upstairs bedroom on the right side. Her blanket was tightly wrapped around her left hind leg and may have been that way for hours. Casey, a Saint Bernard puppy, was in a crib covered in feces and urine. Her tail, back legs and genitalia were saturated with feces and urine. I told

Susan that Casey needed a bath, because she was getting scalded by the pasty mixture adhered to her coat and skin.

Sunday, December 5, 2010

- Most of the paralyzed dogs seem to leak urine as they walk, because their bladders are under pressure. I suspect that the animals' bladders are only emptied by mechanical pressure when they move around and are not emptied regularly. The significance is that this causes urinary tract infections and urine scald, as seen on most of the paralyzed dogs. Susan placed a diaper on Scrappy and Marley, without expressing their bladders, after our conversation. ... The sliding glass door in the living room was partially open leading to the upstairs deck. The paralyzed dogs can get out, but have a hard time getting over the step to get back inside. ... There was a long-haired dachshund named Frankie who was out in the snow and could not get back in. I have to bring dogs inside frequently, because their back legs get hooked under the door when they try to get in. Susan has said that she will have a ramp built, but she has been at this location for more two years with paralyzed dogs. ... It seems reasonable to expect that a ... facility designed to accommodate paralyzed dogs have ramps facilitating the dogs' ability to move about.

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

- There were four dogs in the runs outside the back door when I arrived. I suspect that they were left outside all night without access to shelter. ... The gate leading to the portable building where the dogs can seek shelter was closed. There are two plastic dog houses in the yard that are full of snow and not large enough to fit the four dogs. There was a Great Pyrenees named Dillon who was lying in the snow in a run. Dillon didn't have access to a dog house and didn't have water. None of the runs that I saw had water. ... I entered the house and the dogs in the upstairs living room were very rambunctious. ... There were urine and feces throughout the room on the floor, blankets, and cribs.

Thursday, December 9, 2010

- [An employee] told Susan that Angel, a terrier mix, was found this morning locked in the Suburban. ... Angel was in the Suburban in freezing temperatures for more than 72 hours without food, water, or heat. ... When I was leaving for the day, I looked at the wheel carts hanging on the fence outside. ... The carts have been in the same spot since I have started volunteering. I have not seen any dogs placed in any wheel carts.

Friday, December 10, 2010

- Susan bought supplies for the facility at Walmart. ... Susan shopped as if she was making purchases with someone else's money. Susan seemed careless and unconcerned with the price or that she could purchase the products for less money from a distributor. Susan was checking out and I asked her if she filled out her tax identification application. I said to Susan, "Look how much money you'd be saving." Susan said "I know; don't go there." ... Susan expressed Luka's bladder and colon ... She held Luka over a trash can and squeezed

Luka's abdomen with great force. Susan shook Luka like Luka was a spoon that she was trying to get peanut butter off of.

Sunday, December 12, 2010

- Susan was speaking to ... Heidi's prior owner. ... Susan was making faces, laughing and rolling her eyes while on the phone with [the guardian]. Susan told [the guardian] that she trims Heidi's nails, bathes her, and cleans her ears a few times a week. Susan ... does not do those things on a regular basis. ... Susan does not usually take calls from most people who send their dogs to her.

Monday, December 13, 2010

- During the meeting, I asked [an employee] if they fed the rancid meat that was sitting out yesterday to the outside cats. [The employee] told me they fed all the meat except one of the bags, which was green. There were two boxes that contained a total of six bags of meat, all of which I thought smelled rotten. [The employee] said that he doesn't know why the food was left out, when there was room in the freezer.

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

- I was ... cleaning the blood spatter from the walls and cabinets from Daisy's ear. I saw a bottle of Norvasc that was dispensed ... to treat Tucker. ... There were 30 tablets dispensed and there were 30 tablets in the bottle, indicating that Tucker has not received any of the medication that the neurologist recommended. There was a bottle of Levetiracetam dispensed ... to help control the seizures of Shifty, an English bulldog. There were 30 tablets dispensed and there were still 30 tablets in the bottle. ... There was a full bottle of liquid medication ... dispensed in September ... for Franklin that was never used. The liquid medication was filled to the rim of the bottle.

Thursday, December 16, 2010

- Scooter continues to show signs of inflammation and infection in his legs and his penis. Scooter's back feet were swollen and had large ulcers on the toes. ... Scooter's feet are pitted from the severe inflammation and trauma to the tissue. Scooter's penis was red and inflamed, and oozed a purulent discharge. There is trauma to Scooter's penis from him leaking urine and dragging himself on the floor.