

Seizures and Surveillance An ounce of prevention...

Yet again, I was sent a link to another news story about a “raid” at a USDA commercial kennel – almost 300 dogs and puppies this time...and the person who alerted me to it personally knows the accused and can vouch for their facility. Best Friends Animal “Scamtuary” and H\$U\$ have already offered to take the dogs – what a surprise! I can’t help but wonder – would breeders continue to be having this rapidly escalating problem if they consistently had video taped evidence of the “raids” - hard evidence of the daily care given to the animals, and the actual conditions they live in? The kind of evidence that would also show the conduct and comments of the “takers”...

Modern technology is a beautiful thing in the right hands. In the hands of the enemy it is potentially disastrous. Working under the assumption that almost everyone is computer literate and “on line” these days, put “spy cam” or “nanny cam” into your search engine and behold the marvel of the discreet surveillance video camera. For roughly the price of a pure bred puppy, you can slip these babies into almost anything. My personal recommendation is a four camera system, uploaded to the internet, via a secure website (in real time). This yields a little thing that I like to call “defense exhibit A”. Roll tape...

How much is your business worth? Can you put a price on your livelihood? I’m sure that each and every one of you has already posted the specially written “NO TRESPASSING” signs that list the federal codes and exonerates you from defending your property against trespassing citizen vigilantes. (Available from the National Assoc. of Rural Land Owners* - <http://www.narlo.org/sign.html>)

Now, let me give you a frightening glimpse of your future...under the guise of “animal fighting” The H\$U\$ website’s support of pending federal legislation states:
“Federal law enforcement efforts can be enhanced with the assistance of local agencies and nonprofit organizations. **H.R. 3327 authorizes supplemental enforcement by animal control agencies and local humane societies and societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals (SPCAs)**, with notice to the USDA so that the agency may intervene in any case.” - <http://www.hsus.org/web-files/PDF/legislation/dog-fighting-factsheet.pdf>

I urge you to contact your federal legislators TODAY, and ask them to oppose this bill! Dog fighting is already illegal in all 50 states, and needs to stay at the state level. This intentionally vague bill is intended to set the stage for federal legislation under the guise of ANY alleged cruelty...that means breeding, hunting, and so on. H\$U\$ keeps score by arrests – NOT convictions, and they offer a \$2,500 bounty for “cruelty” tips that lead to a conviction, and recently doubled their “animal fighting” reward to \$5,000. But it only takes a warrant to ruin someone’s life’s work. I know, because it’s happened to my innocent friends and associates recently. Has it happened to anyone you know yet?

*National Association of Rural Landowners
P. O. Box 1031, Issaquah, WA 98027
Telephone: 425 222-4742 or 1 800 682-7848
(Fax No. 425 222-4743)
E-mail address: in@narlo.org
Ron Ewart, President: r@narlo.org