



# Georgia Department of Agriculture

## Companion Animal/Equine Division

19 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. SW, Rm. 122 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Phone: 1-404-656-4914

Website: <http://agr.georgia.gov/>

Gary W. Black  
Commissioner

Inspection ID

59189

### Animal Protection Inspection Report

Inspection ID	Inspection Reason	Inspection Date	Inspection Start Time	Inspection End Time	Inspector Name
59189	CONSUMER COMPLAINT	10/22/2018	12:30 PM	1:15 PM	JASON J.SMITH
EST NO		EST NAME		Type	License No
102411		HALL COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER		ANIMAL SHELTER	33102411
Physical Address		Physical City	Physical State	Physical Zip Code	County
1688 Barber Rd		Gainesville	GA	30507	HALL

#### Requirements Details

Premises	Current License Displayed	Housekeeping	Lighting	Adequate Temperature Control	Adequate Ventilation	Fire Extinguishing Device				
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				
Enclosures	Space Requirement	Interior Surface	Structural Strength	Shelter / Elements	Drainage					
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Performance	Record Keeping	Storage	Pest Control	Sanitation	Waste Disposal					
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Animal Care	Class Separation	Adequate Food	Adequate Water	Selling or Adopting Injured or Diseased or Abnormal Animals	Minimum Age	Tethering	Euthanasia	Humane Care	Negative Coggins	Evacuation Plan
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### Companion Animal Details

Number of Animals	Number of Stall/Enclosure	Number of Breeding Animals	Number of Monthly Bird Inventory

#### Follow Up Status Information

Follow Up Date	Follow Up Reason	Follow Up Duration	Animal Types
	N/A		

#### Follow Up Notes

#### Action Information

Quarantine Issued	SS (Stop Sale)	SU (Stop Use)	SM (Stop Movement)	Quarantine Issue Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Disease type				



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Complaint Unfounded	Complaint Resolved	Complaint Resolved Date	Complaint Reference Number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		0

### Action Notes

### Violation Information



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### Inspection Comments

Upon arrival, I met Animal Control/Shelter Manager, Officer Mike Ledford regarding the following complaint:

#### **PUPPIES UNDER AGE 4-6 BEING ADOPTED , ANIMAL COVER WITH FLEAS AND UNDER WEIGHT . WATER PALE NOT REACHABLE TO THE ANIMALS, PUPPIES ARE DYING**

Director Ledford explained that this complaint stemmed from a litter of 8 puppies specifically that had been brought in to the shelter by a Hall Co resident who had found them on his property abandoned by the mother. Director Ledford produced the intake paperwork and kennel cards with attached pictures. Director Ledford also explained that 4-6 week age range given upon intake was a mistake. A kennel tech, only on the job months, aged the dogs incorrectly upon intake. He stated the puppies were older than 8 weeks when they arrived. Six of the puppies cleared the stay/hold quarantine period before being transferred or adopted out; one puppy died sometime after intake. A second puppy, was diagnosed by the on staff veterinarian with coxidia. Director Ledford explained that the vet staff did administer treatment immediately. The animal did not show a positive response to treatment and the veterinarian made the determination to humanely euthanize the puppy as to prevent any further suffering. A third puppy was adopted out to a new owner. Hall Co Animal Shelter transferred ownership of the other 5 puppies to GDA Licensed rescues.

To further address the issue of under age release of these animals:

From the intake pictures that I viewed the puppies did not appear thin; I did not see bone or sagging skin and (per the picture) the puppies appeared 8 weeks or older. However, the puppy that was adopted before being released to the new owner (per shelter records and Director Ledford's statement). In my experience, a Georgia licensed veterinarian will not perform this procedure if he/she feels the animal is underweight and/or usually under 2 months of age, meaning the veterinarian must have felt the adopted puppy was old enough and healthy enough to neuter; which subsequently means it was more than likely old enough to be adopted out. Director Ledford, explained the vet tech has been counseled about this incident and this should not be a continued mistake.

Regarding the 5 puppies that Hall Co transferred ownership of to 2 other rescues; 2 to one rescue and 3 to another rescue, this is a common procedure permitted by the Ga Dept of Agriculture. Puppies and Kittens can be transferred between GDA licensed establishments regardless of age, provided the proper recordkeeping has been done by both agencies. Puppies and kittens under 8 weeks old can be transferred with a nursing mother (if nursing is still taking place). If there are reasons there is not a nursing mother or the puppies/kittens weaned early, they can still be transferred between agencies, provided the intaking establishment has the means to care for them. In this instance, the finder of the litter of puppies, brought them to Hall Co Animal Shelter without the mother. He told the staff there was no mother dog around when he found puppies on his property. These puppies were available for transfer immediately after Hall Co Animal Shelter's stray hold/quarantine period has ended.

When asked about the flea accusation stated in the complaint, Director Ledford explained that the veterinarian and shelter staff observe this constantly. He stated that vet staff has made it clear to him that they manage this upon intake and regular observation of the animals on premise. Vet staff has assured him that the animals are treated upon intake and that they have not observed any animals that are covered/infested; they observe very few fleas on animals on premise. I did not observe any animals that appeared to be covered in fleas, nor have I during past inspections.

I did not observe any animals that did not have access to fresh food or water during my inspection. I have not observed a violation of this during past inspections either. I photographed a couple of puppy cages with puppies in them, to illustrate the cage set up, in which food and water bowls were easily accessible.

As for puppies dying, records show that one puppy from this litter of 8 did die just after intake, and one was humanely euthanized after diagnosis of coxidia. Hall Co Animal Shelter has throughout the years routinely reported disease issues to the GDA Animal Health Office. Most recently, there has been positive parvo cases that Director Ledford reported to me and is forwarding to the Animal Health Ofc. Hall Co Animal Shelter staff has followed the Shelter's SOP protocol. Reported instances and humane euthanasia (decision made by the veterinarian) records that are inspected routinely are the only animal deaths that GDA is aware that occurs at Hall Co Animal Shelter.