

Sample Letter to the Editor Regarding Pet Theft

Dear Editor:

Up to two million companion animals are stolen each year. Some are used in puppy mills and dogfighting rings, or for sadistic acts. Others are sold to research laboratories. Only about 10% are ever returned home.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture licenses animal dealers, including Class B dealers, who obtain animals from “random sources.” They may acquire cats and dogs under false pretenses through “Free to Good Home” ads or even steal them from someone’s backyard. Although the U.S.D.A. is charged with ensuring the health and safety of animals in B dealers’ possession, there are not enough inspectors, and enforcement of existing regulations is extremely weak. Thus, when languishing animals are found, it is sometimes too late: U.S.D.A. inspection reports have documented emaciated and dehydrated cats in cages with dead cats and open burial pits containing dog carcasses in varying states of decay.

For information on how to protect America’s companion animals from such horrors, please visit www.StolenPets.com or www.LCAnimal.org.

Sincerely,

Be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number in your letter. Most newspapers will not look twice at a letter if they cannot verify who wrote it.



To obtain a list of newspapers in your area as well as their contact information, visit: <http://www.newspapers.com> and http://newspapers.com/us_advanced.php.



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