



Palm Beach County

Animal Care and Control

Case Report

Activity #: **A18-009892**

Complainant

LINDA SHOMO
2402 SW WASHINGTON ST
PORT ST. LUCIE, FL 34953

Defendant

PAWSITIVELY LOVE
16113 E WILTSHIRE DR
LOXAHATCHEE, FL 33470

Animal

ID:	Breed:	Sex:
Name: UNKNOWN	Color:	Age:

Activity Type: MANNER OF KEEPING, CHECK ROUTINE CARE, MEDS, EXAM (1931)

Location: Loxahatchee

Arrival Date/Time: 7/30/2018 10:19:00 AM

Complete Date/Time: 7/30/2018 4:01:00 PM

Officer: COUTTS - 2214

Activity #: **A18-009892.1**



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07-30-18 Linda Shomo lives in Port Saint Lucie, FL and boarded 4 adult dogs Joe a 15yr Dachshund with heart condition Gilbert a 4yr old Dachshund on anxiety medication Valium, Eddie a 2yr Chihuahua and Bear a 1 Yr old Chihuahua. All four dogs were boarded at Pawsitively Love from July 2-7th 2018. Ms. Shomo believed this was a licensed Kennel

Ms. Shomo spoke several times to owner Mary Christy Cotton regarding her concerns for her elderly dog named Joe, who needs to be closely monitored and given heart medication at a regular intervals. Joe cannot be kept outdoors in the heat due to his heart condition. Ms. Shomo also has a dog named Gilbert that has anxiety attacks and is given doses of anxiety medication Valium as needed. Mary Cotton assure Ms. Shomo that her four small dogs will be kept in air conditioned apartment with separate fenced area and monitored closely by her daughter Amy.

Since Ms. Shomo lives out of County, she was emailed videos of air conditioned roomy living quarters her dogs would be housed in during their stay. Mary Cotton told her to pay on Pay pal and told her to supply all meals at drop off, since her dogs are on a special diet.

Ms. Shomo prepared homemade frozen meals for her 4 dogs and had to prepare their medications for each time for each day. Ms. Shomo supplied her own dog beds, pillows and comforter so her dogs would feel secure. When it was time to deliver the four dogs she was told to wait at the gate and an employee will come get them.

Mary Cotton never asked her to supply proof of current rabies vaccine or tags for her 4 dogs. Ms. Shomo was not required to sign any paper work on site. Ms. Shomo stated she found this disturbing since she has boarded her dogs at other kennels in the past and she had to sign and fill out several forms and provide medical records. Ms. Shomo was in a hurry and left her 4 dogs in their care.

While on vacation Ms. Shomo was worried about her dogs and phoned Mary Cotton for a report. Ms. Shomo stated Mary Cotton answered the phone slurring her words and Ms. Shomo stated she believed she was intoxicated. Ms. Cotton stated her dogs were fine and eating well and were enjoying their stay. Ms. Shoma asked if they can send her a video. Mary Cotton sent a video of the dogs outdoors. They were not in the fenced separate area she was told they will be placed.

Ms. Shomo returned from her vacation and dropped by the kennel unexpectedly. The front gate by barn area was open so she entered. It was during the planned 30 minute tour Ms. Cotton gives potential clients. No one was present in barn area. Ms. Shomo said she was sweating from the heat. The barn smelled of bleach. There was no air conditioning. There were large fans blowing hot air in the barn. Ms. Shomo entered the barn on the side and noticed 4 small cubicle rooms separated from the main aisle way in barn. There was 1 fan blowing hot air inside of cubicle. Inside the small cubicle she saw her 4 dogs all squished together sitting on a dirty pillow with feces smeared. All four dogs appeared over heated and were panting.

Ms. Shoma advised she was very upset and went looking for Mary Cotton. First she located Amy and Amy stated her Mother was up at the main house giving a tour. Ms. Shoma asked why her dogs were outside in a hot cubicle she was told by Amy they were just moved there since she was due to pick them up later that day. Ms. Shoma did not believe that was true and walked over to the air conditioned room she was shown they would be housed in and there were two other dogs housed inside and none of her dogs belongings were present.

Ms. Shoma asked for all her dogs belonging. Amy gave her urine soaked bedding in a plastic bag. The Tupperware containers that she supplied the home prepared meals in were still ice cold from being removed from the freezer. Ms. Shoma believes that the meal was thrown in the trash to empty her containers. Then Ms. Shoma asked for the remaining medications she supplied for her dogs. Amy said they were all used up or lost. Ms. Shoma said she supplied about 20-25 anxiety pills and her dog could not have possibly been given them all.

Ms. Shoma stated she was complaining about the care of her dogs, when Mary Cotton told her to leave as she was on private property. Later when Ms. Shoma phoned Ms. Cotton she was told by her to shut up. Ms. Shoma stated her dogs were poorly cared for and she was lied to about the living conditions and the care her dogs would receive. Ms. Shoma plans to file a complaint with the courts.