



 **Animal Kingdom**

News

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[Puppies 'N Love/Animal Kingdom Pet Stores](#)

Dog Breeder Records Now Back Online After Controversial Removal

USDA Restores Online Animal Welfare Act Records

PHOENIX — The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has restored certain Animal Welfare Act records on its web site after removing them back in Feb. 2017 for potential privacy concerns.

Essentially, the controversial removal of those records made it much harder for the public to search for USDA licensed animal breeder records to see if a breeder has or had any violations. As of yesterday, the public has full access to the records.

"This is a win-win for everyone because Arizona law requires pet stores to operate with transparency and high standards with regards to breeders. The removal of those records caused us a lot more work, because we had to continue to scrutinize breeder inspection reports and make them available in our stores," says Frank Mineo Jr., owner of Puppies 'N Love and Animal Kingdom pet stores.

Also, within 60 days APHIS will post records (all content) - without redactions - generated since The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020, passed in Dec. 2019, that directed the restoration of the records.

These records include Animal Welfare Act inspection reports (including any non-compliant items), animal inventories and Horse Protections Act enforcement records.

The searchable database can be found here:

<https://acis.aphis.edc.usda.gov/ords/f?p=118:1>

Note to media: We have four Puppies 'N Love and Animal Kingdom pet stores in the Valley and one in Tucson. If you'd like access to our stores for B-roll please contact Linda Nofer at 480-510-2353. We are also available for interviews.

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