

TASK FORCE MEETING- October 16, 2013

TOPIC- "Ways to improve the puppy industry and ensure healthy animals in CT"

SPEAKER- Peter Noel – Owner, Gentle Jungle Pet Store, Meriden, CT

My name is Pete Noel, I own Gentle Jungle Pet Store in Meriden, CT and I love animals! Myself, my wife and my staff of 12 fellow animal lovers, sell puppies, kittens, bunnies and virtually everything that is presently legal. We have five puppy play rooms, a kitten play area-all where the public can enjoy the animals for free. Over seventy puppy kennels all individually reverse ventilated to aide in the health of the puppies. Southbury Vet Hospital physically comes to the store every seven days (not every 15 days as state law dictates) and examines every puppy/kitten weekly. We have 100 hrs of animal care/clean up on a weekly basis to keep the animals clean and healthy. We are located in a large mall so hundreds of people come through our doors regularly and the people love us! Ray Connors was my animal control inspector for 10 years.

My Father opened his first pet store when I was nine years old, so I have been in the pet store business a long time. The topic is "Ways to improve the puppy industry and ensure healthy animals in CT." I have many suggestions, but in three minutes of testimony here are two:

- 1.) It is always pet store, breeder, internet or rescue organizations. All four are options for the customer, all have pros and cons. Pet stores provide only 8% of the puppies in CT. and are highly regulated, what about the other 92%????? If the government is to protect and serve the public, why not make the rules that apply to pet stores applicable to all????? Make the puppy lemon law which protects the public on the 8% of pet store puppies, apply to the remaining 92% which are not protected. Every day

In the pet store people ask about the warrantee, we say triple vet check and a year!

- (1) State law requires the breeders vet to provide a health certificate for each puppy coming in.
- (2) State law requires the store Veterinarian to independently double check each puppy's health prior to being offered for sale.
- (3) State law provides the customer go to the vet of their choice for an independent third check. Anything wrong the customer may keep or return the puppy and receive up to \$500.00 in vet compensation.

If the puppy passes all three vet checks, there is also one year if something shows up later with similar compensation. State law says six months we give ONE YEAR!

The public and the puppies should be protected in 100% of all transactions, not just the 8% bought from pet stores! Does the Task Force only see puppies from pet stores susceptible to illness or are puppies from breeders, the internet or rescue also at risk?????

- 2.) Second suggestion is we must have a civil discussion to protect the public in acquiring a puppy from a pet store, breeder, rescue or internet. This is the first of many meetings in the legislative process. All sides love animals.

This summer on June 22, the CT Coalition against Puppy Mills organized a "peaceful protest" outside my store in the street, they rallied their troops and two people showed up with signs to protest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by 2:30 p.m. my picture taken from my wife's Facebook Page was posted on their website. Here is a sample of their members comments posted below my photo:

-----" A person without a soul"

-----"He looks like a pedophile"

-----"Comparison to Hitler"

-----"Hell has a reserved room for him"

-----"Wow, a picture of a real life Ahole"

-----"Asswipe"

These fringe groups are here right now, a member of your task force has actively participated on their website numerous times. Myself, my wife, my kids, my employees, the store Veterinarian all love animals!!!!

Will the legislature continue to only regulate the 8%, or help protect the public by addressing the other 92% as well????? If you purchase from the 92% in the morning and the puppy is sick by the afternoon, it's too bad for the customer!

God Bless the animals and I hope sane minds prevail!

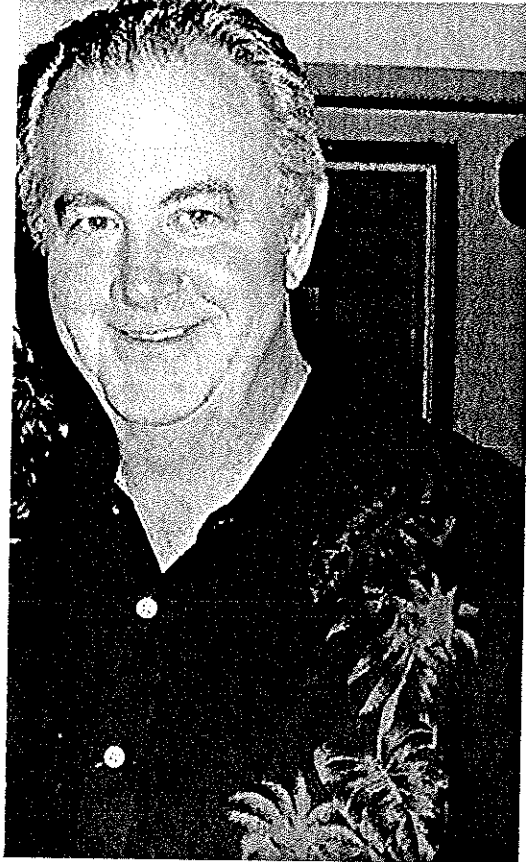
Sincerely,

Peter Noel

Gentle Jungle Pet Store

To Lucianne62@yahoo.com

t's funny. As often as we speak to the owners of pet stores, it's still a bit jarring to talk to a person without a soul. This notorious one couldn't even admit to us that he was the owner.




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


Linn Miller It's interesting that you can totally dislike someone you've never met.


June 22 at 2:33pm via mobile · Like · 1

 **Beth Espinoza** He looks like a pedophile

June 22 at 2:35pm via mobile · Like · 1

 **Susan Smith Casagrande** He disgusts me!


June 22 at 2:37pm via mobile · Like

 **Brenda Martin Kopytko** You don't have to meet someone to dislike them. Was never fond of Hitler and I never met him either...

June 22 at 2:38pm · Like · 3

 **Ronald Tribecca** Puppy mills still exist?? Hi peta hello Caesar Milan I've sen that on Nat geo 2 yrs ago or more

June 22 at 2:54pm via mobile · Like

 **Sara Vokes** They did not say they didn't like him, the comment was about this human's soul and treatment of the animals that provide him a financial income. It has nothing to do with "like" or "dislike". Behavior and treatment of animals can define a humans character. Having stood between a man holding a 2X4 ready to swing it at his cowering dog, I can attest that while I knew the person doing the hitting, I still made a detached judgement about his behavior: He is hurting that which cannot fight back. Therefore, he is wrong. This man has made very poor decisions. It is made without thought to the pain and suffering of the animal. Therefore, he is wrong.


June 22 at 3:00pm · Like · 3

 **Margaret Testa Zybrick** Idiot!

June 22 at 3:22pm via mobile · Like

 **Margaret Testa Zybrick** You can dislike someone for what they do or fail to do!

June 22 at 3:23pm via mobile · Like · 3

 **Laurie Stroda** He'll has a reserved room for him!


June 22 at 4:06pm via mobile · Like · 1

 **Kris Malkasian** You know, before I read your caption I thought "what a dick, why would they post his picture."


June 22 at 6:10pm · Like

 **Patricia Bresson** Asswipe!

June 22 at 7:26pm via mobile · Like

 **Marianne Michael** Wow, a picture of a real live AH. And I was going to say that even before Insaw


June 22 at 8:54pm · Like · 1

 **Marianne Michael** Sorry, iPad problems...I was going to say that even before I saw the other comments!


June 22 at 8:54pm · Like · 1

 **CT Coalition Against Puppy Mills** Asswipe is too kind.


June 22 at 9:53pm · Like · 1

 **Lois Guisti Haag** Wow, how nasty you people are. To slander someone you don't even know like that! I am an animal lover as well but no one has the right to tell me or anyone else where they can get "their" for legged pet. Not all pet stores are the same. I have purchased two beautiful doxies from this pet store and couldn't be happier. Not all pet stores use those nasty puppy mills. How would you feel if someone called someone you knew a pedophile? That is tasteless and classless. We have a right to our opinions as well. You can get a point across without hurting people and their families.

June 22 at 9:53pm · Unlike · 1

 **CT Coalition Against Puppy Mills** CT Coalition called no one a pedophile. And we DO have the right to tell people where his dogs come from, since he won't. Think about the parents of your pretty pups. Google the breeder where they came from, if you know...

June 22 at 11:03pm · Like · 2

 **Lois Guisti Haag** Did and they are fine. This person you are attacking has a family. Has always been a hard worker and would give the shirt off his back for someone in need. He has a love for animals and knowledge to help those who are new to becoming dog owners. Go after puppy mills not those who don't purchase from them.

June 23 at 12:23am via mobile · Unlike · 1

Brenda Kupchick But commercial breeders are loosely regulated by weak standards set up under the animal welfare act. Pet stores buy puppies from commercial mills, aka puppy mills.

Gentle jungle is listing adoption for 40 a week. Clearly they're not a rescue. They selling puppies for a high price. But hey, it's all about the profit!

June 18 at 10:19pm via mobile · Like · 1



Brenda Kupchick Caveat emptor:





STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL CONTROL DIVISION

PET SHOP INSPECTION

TRADE NAME Gentle Jungle DATE 10/2/13 TIME 2:45 PM
 LICENSEE Peter Noel STATE LICENSE # 159
 LOCATION 470 Lewis Ave TOWN Meriden

STRUCTURAL STANDARDS, 22-344-16a	YES	NO	ANIMAL HEALTH, 22-344-20a	YES	NO	N/A
Structurally sound	X		Food: palatable, uncontaminated	X		
Good repair to prevent injuries			sufficient quantity			
Clean and sanitary	X		stored properly	X		
Proper waste disposal	X		Animals: adults fed at least once daily	X		
Control of vermin, insects, odors	X		young fed at least twice daily	X		
Proper disposal of excreta, bedding, debris	X		Feeding pans: durable and sanitized daily	X		
			Self feeders: cleaned and sanitized regularly	X		
ENCLOSURES, 22-344-17a			Water: potable and provided at all times	X		
Suited to species of animals	X		containers clean and sanitized	X		
Structurally sound	X					
Good repair to prevent injuries or escape	X		Dogs and cats prior to sale:			
Walls and floors impervious to moisture	X		held a minimum of 48 hours			
Grid flooring	X		housed separately and observed daily	X		
proper material	X		verified by veterinarian to be healthy	X		
adequate gauge	X		Sick or injured animals isolated	X		
Clean and disinfected	X		examined and treated by a veterinarian	X		
Adequate physical comfort for animals	X		Dogs in cages removed and exercised daily	X		
Animals can turn, stand, sit, lie comfortably	X					
Overcrowding (complies)	X		DOG AND CAT RECORDS, 22-344-25c			
Compatible animals in grouped housing	X		Bound log book readily available in store	X		
Separation of female dogs and cats in season	X		Consecutively numbered pages	X		
			Complete information including medical care	X		
FACILITY TEMPERATURE, 22-344-18a			Information entered within 72 hours	X		
Sufficiently heated to protect animals	X		USDA forms 18-1 or equivalent if applicable	X		
Temperature between 65 and 78 degrees	X					
Protection from direct sunlight	X		PSITTACINE BIRDS, 19a-36-A23			
Mechanical ventilation	X		Records kept of all transactions	X		
minimizes drafts, odors, condensation	X		complete buyer information	X		
provides health and comfort	X		Parakeets have closed metal seamless bands	X		
operating properly	X					
			IMPORTED BIRDS, 22-325			
LIGHTING, 22-344-19a			Health certificate from state of exportation			X
Ample, well distributed lighting	X		Bird permit / quarantine release form			X
Minimum of eight hours per day	X					
Protection from excessive illumination	X		SALE OF TURTLES, 19a-102a			
			Shell is minimum of four inches	X		
PROHIBITED SALES, 22-344-21a			Salmonella caution notice posted	X		
Animals on prohibited list:			The buyer provided with:			
not on exhibition	X		a copy of the salmonella caution notice	X		
not offered for sale	X		veterinarian information on proper care	X		
Animals not indicating:			Buyer signed form indicating they have	X		
signs of infectious disease	X		read the salmonella caution notice	X		
signs of nutritional disease	X					
severe parasitism	X		PERMIT FOR IMPORTING, 26-55			
fractures	X		This facility imports reptiles or amphibians			X
congenital abnormalities	X		and has required DEP import permit			X

INSPECTED ON COMPLAINT YES NO APPROVED NOT APPROVED

OFFICER [Signature] OWNER OR AGENT [Signature]