

Press Release

There is a secret cancer eroding the lives of animal lovers and pet owners in Ohio. This deadly abscess is an Illegal Enterprise operating through a pattern of Racketeering; it is called the Ohio Humane Society and its County affiliates. Those groups, who are relied upon to protect animals, instead steal, torment, and, if they can't be sold, kill their helpless charges. The out-of-control criminal behavior of Humane Societies is a hidden national problem. As a former thirty-year Assistant United States Attorney prosecuting white collar crime, it is my firm belief that Humane Societies in the United States may be the largest criminal organization in America today.

Ohio's controlling statutory framework is so loose that any group of ten people (whether they care about animal welfare or not) can pass a resolution, and the State of Ohio awards those people the power to hire their own prosecutors, their own police, and the power of arrest with complete immunity. There is no oversight and no reporting to anyone. This arrangement is an open invitation to exploitation by greedy thugs. The invitation has been accepted.

Most states have this same or a similar framework.

Private shelter operators are frequent victims of the Societies because private shelters often house large numbers of animals for the Societies to seize and sell, and because, in Ohio, these shelters often have a better reputation and receive more donations than Humane Societies. For example, when three kittens were left in a car last summer and were in danger of death from the heat, Lake County Sheriff's deputies took the kittens to Caroline's Kids Pet Rescue for care, not to the Lake Humane Society.

Humane Societies are privately funded. Their Directors and Board members often receive generous salaries, and the Societies must pay their private police and prosecutors. To get the money they need, Humane Societies bust pet owners and private rescue shelters, using extortion and threats of arrest and/or prosecution to coerce the surrender of animals and the payment of illegal restitution to the Humane Society.

Under Ohio law, restitution may be paid only to the victims of a crime. In instances of animal abuse, it is the abused animals that are the victims, not the Humane Society. Humane Societies manufacture violations of animal protection laws for funding, e.g., one woman had dogs that all were healthy and well-cared-for. Humane agents broke into her home, which adjoined her shelter, dumped garbage on the floor, broke furniture, completely trashed the place, and then took photographs to show that the shelter was messy and dirty. All of the dogs were clean, well fed, and watered. Society agents prosecuted this woman for smells that they alleged were in the air. The humane agent and the prosecutor from Medina County were involved in this prosecution, which occurred in Wayne County.

These Societies have undeserved credentials, both as charities and as law enforcement organizations. They hire strange people. For example, a woman who was sued by a man who had paid her \$50,000 for sexual favors, then was hired by the Medina Humane Society as their law enforcement officer with the power to compel arrests.

These Societies profit from selling animals which are "stolen," by extortion, and from collecting criminal fines which the Societies are awarded through the coerced agreement of their victims.

Animals that are young and cute are adoptable, i.e., "marketable" commodities. The Humane Societies sell those animals. The other animals are killed by the Societies, usually through use of false claims that the animals have some sort of illness, which allows the Societies

to avoid the cost of their ongoing care. The animals suffer, kind-hearted animal-loving people suffer, and society suffers as there are fewer, rather than more, resources for animals in need.

The Societies' prosecutions are driven by profit, not by animal welfare.

In Cuyahoga County, a Humane Society "planted" evidence of animal abuse at the clinic of a veterinarian who helped a private shelter, by chaining an emaciated dog to the front porch of the Veterinary Clinic, then searching the clinic to "find" the dog.

Humane Society agents break into private homes and shelters, require extortionate payments to avoid prosecution, and collect those periodic payments monthly from large numbers of people. The Societies require psychological evaluations of private shelter operators and permit those evaluations to be posted on-line. Societies smear the reputations of shelter operators.

The Director of Lake Humane, Lee Nesler, ripped animals from the arms of Caroline's Kids Rescue staff, chiding the women for crying, and exclaiming, "The animals have no feelings!"

The Societies have threatened to take away the children of animal owners who resisted their extortion.

In one instance, Society agents jammed 84 healthy cats into cages, two or three per cage, strapped the cages on a flatbed truck, drove the truck at a high speed over country roads, then, after the terrified cats had urinated and defecated on themselves and each other and their noses were running, photographed the cats to document animal abuse, killed all of the cats that night, and prosecuted the shelter owner.

One of the most pathetic instances of Prosecutorial misconduct was in Cuyahoga County when, during a raid, a volunteer tried to smuggle a blind kitten from the shelter to avoid the Humane Society "impoundment" because she loved the kitten and wanted to adopt it. She knew that if the Humane Society got the kitten, the Society would kill it. The worker was discovered, prosecuted for "Obstruction of Justice," and the kitten was "euthanized."

The Illegal Enterprise, which encompasses the Northern Ohio Humane Societies of approximately thirty-eight counties, is an Animal Gestapo that operates Animal Death Camps.

I am suing Lake Humane Society as the first of many Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations because volunteer staff from Caroline's Kids Pet Rescue are being prosecuted by the Lake Humane Society, and I am hoping to prevent prosecution of the owners of Caroline's Kids, which is threatened to occur on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 (Valentine's Day).

My proposed solution: 1) take the profit motive out; 2) have designated slots or partial slots for county prosecutors funded by the general fund; 3) require reporting.

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