

she was told by management, who was told by the highest management at the shelter. She claimed there are bags in kennels and the freezers are full. She stated the bags in the kennels were beside kennels with live animals. There is a freezer, one of three at the shelter, which does not work and has been full of dead animals since Monday, April 22, 2013. I asked her if she had been told anything concerning disposal of the euthanatized animals. She said that on Monday when she was told about the dump refusing to take the animals, she asked management what they were going to do about carcass disposal and she was told "your guess is as good as mine". I asked if the caller had any pictures of this and was told that the male caller had taken some. I asked if they would send them to us. The male caller asked for a cell number to send them too. I gave him the state cell phone.

The caller stated she has a rash. I asked her if she had been to a doctor to have it diagnosed. She said no, she was doctoring it at home and the only thing she's found that has alleviated it was a spray to treat athlete's food.

The caller then described an instance of animal cruelty she witnessed on Saturday, April 20, 2013. She was cleaning the cat isolation area when Ashley came in. The caller mentioned that one of the cats caged in the isolation room was acting "strange". She warned that it was mean. She stated that Ashley took the cat out of the cage to "love on it", and it attacked her. The caller ran to get a catch pole. She stated Ashley got the cat on a catch pole, cinched it to the point of strangulation and proceeded to kick the cat. She proceeded to kick and drag the cat from the isolation room to the quarantine room. At some point, the cat lost consciousness. It was placed in a quarantine cage. It regained consciousness later on. The caller and her friend stated they both witnessed this act. Management was not on the premises at the time. Both stated they witnessed Ashley speaking to management about the incident. She used an explicative to describe the cat and said "but that's okay...it has boot prints now." According to the caller, management laughed at this point. I asked if she knew where the cat came from. Was it a drop off by animal control? Was it someone's surrender? She stated she thinks, but is unsure, that the cat was a drop off by animal control, possibly Tyler. I asked where the cat was now. She said it is in quarantine and after the 10 days, it will be euthanized. She stated that Ashley primarily works with the cats. Ashley made it a point to come in on her days off to take care of this cat. The caller stated that Ashley's husband also works at the shelter.

I asked both callers if they had spoken to management about the incident. The female caller said that she had not talked to management because it would do no good. There hadn't been any reprimand when Ashley told management herself what happened. I stated that if it was me, I would go ahead and express my concerns.

Both callers say they witnessed Ashley taunting a couple of cats and taking video of it. When the caller asked what she was doing, Ashley said she was trying to make the cat crazy. The caller stated she was hitting the cage in an attempt to make the cats hiss and attack.

The caller stated that on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, Jeffrey Hammerbacher, the transport officer for Tyler Animal Control had to go into the shelter and inform staff that there was a dead puppy in with 2 other puppies in one of the outside kennels. The male caller said that the puppies were in the "sick bay"

area because management suspected they had parvo. I asked where the 2 living puppies were. I was told they were still in the same cage outside. The female caller stated that the cage had been moved approximately 1 cage length away and the area the cage was sitting was sprayed with bleach water. When I asked if the cage itself was cleaned, she could not be certain.

During the call, I was informed that the majority of the euthanizing at the shelter is not done in the euthanasia room. I was told that cats are done in the isolation or quarantine room, in their cages by use of a pole syringe. The female caller said that they stick them where they can and it's horrifying to see some of the cats thrash around before finally dying. This is done in sight of other cats. I was told that puppies and dogs are usually euthanized in the runs. The male caller said that he has participated in the euthanasia where there were three puppies in the cage and he was directed to hold the other puppies down, or hold the puppy being euthanized down. The female caller stated that puppies are euthanized by injection into their stomachs. The larger dogs are euthanized via a vein. I asked if any euthanasia happens in the euthanasia room and was told that sometimes they will take 2-3 dogs into the room at the same time and euthanize them. I asked if any of this euthanasia happened before the public. They both stated no. I asked who was euthanizing the animals and was given 4 names. Angela Wallace, Braun Cyrs (sp.), Jason and Nathan. The female caller said she was unsure if Nathan was trained to euthanize animals, but she knows Jason is not. The male caller said he has witnessed Nathan euthanize a cat and that Jason euthanizes on a regular basis. I asked how long Nathan and Jason have been employed at the shelter. The female caller said Jason has been there about 2 years and Nathan was there 5 months ago, then he was fired, and 2 weeks ago, he was hired back.

The female caller said that management at the shelter is friends with 2 board members. She stated that the 2 employees that are not management are in the fight club that Angela Wallace oversees.

Both callers stated they have witnessed alcoholic beverages being consumed on the premises during work hours. I asked if management was aware of the alcohol on the premises and was told that management is one of the ones drinking.

They callers stated that management will bring their coolers and dishes up to the shelter for the community service volunteers to clean. The male caller said that management will bring up a huge bar-b-q trailer and practice recipes during work hours if there is some sort of cook off coming up.

The female caller stated she has seen someone taking prescription medication that was not prescribed for them on the premises.

At 2:39pm on Thursday, April 25, 2013, the male caller called the state cell phone. Angela answered the phone. He wanted to know what time we closed. Angela asked him to explain what was in the pictures. After a brief conversation, she handed the phone to me and I spoke with him, asking if he knew the dates of some of the incidents we had spoken about. He said he believed the incident with the cat being strangled was on Saturday. He was describing to me that there was a picture of a German shepherd puppy that was being held back in "sick bay", the area where any puppy or dog showing signs of illness

are kept, for the past 2 weeks because a family member of an employee wanted to adopt it. The caller finally gave his name as Kevin Allen. Kevin was concerned that the healthy German shepherd puppy was being exposed to all sorts of illnesses. He stated that people have expressed an interest in adopting the dog and they are told that the dog was being treated for some illness, or that the dog was already adopted. He stated they do not "treat" dogs; they don't have the money for that.

Kevin also asked about a cage of chickens being held back near the dog runs outside. He was concerned that they were being kept outside during cold temperatures. I told him I was not aware of regulations for chickens, but that I would find out.

Kevin said that he started taking pictures because the commissioner of precinct 3 asked him to.

Kevin said that management is basically using the shelter as a storage facility for their trailers for their fight club and their bar-b-q.

While we were on the phone, he stated that there was a new bag just added, and that it was a huge bag. I asked if it was near any live dogs. He said no, there were no dogs on this side.

Kevin has also asked what could be done about a co-worker being 'on the clock' who was not there. I said that was not under our jurisdiction and that I would find the contact information for the agency that regulates that sort of issue.

At 3:37pm on Thursday, April 25, 2013, Kevin Allen called the state cell phone. I spoke to him. He was calling to ask what regulations there are concerning an employee bringing their kids to work. He said that every afternoon and every Sunday, there are 3 young kids running free around the shelter. He has seen them in the adoption area, cat isolation room, in the kitchen, and on the shelter computer playing games. I asked if he has ever seen them in the quarantine room. He said no, but it is possible that they are crossing the quarantine area to get to the back where "their dog" is being kept. I asked if they are supervised at all times. He said no, and in fact, stated that yesterday; the woman was looking for one of her kids who was out back. He wanted to know if it was safe to have them up there. I stated that this was not an issue where we would have any jurisdiction, but that I did not believe it was safe to have unsupervised children running around the shelter.

Kevin asked if it was safe to have animals running free in the shelter. I asked him to explain what he meant. He said that there is a dog, a black and white Great Dane that is taken for walks on a leash outside the shelter property. It is a dog that was found within the city limits. I explained that we have run into shelters that have "shelter pets" that are restricted to the front area. He said that this dog was kept up front, but has learned how to open or get through the doors and runs free while Angela is out back cleaning or grilling. The dog gets into the clean, empty runs and drinks out of the water bowls that Kevin has to go around and re-clean.

He stated that Angela and Braun don't do much of anything around the shelter anymore. Usually they are on the phone making plans for the fight club or the cook-offs they participate in. He said they have their spices and other items delivered by UPS to the shelter. I said it is not uncommon for employees to

have UPS or Fed-Ex delivered to their work address. In fact, we do it. He said he wonders if they are using shelter funds to buy this stuff. I encouraged him to speak to his Commissioner friend concerning that. I said that the shelter has to keep records of where the money they are given to operate goes. He asked if I would be available after 5 to answer questions. I said no, but Angela has the cell phone and will be available for a short period of time.

During the call, Kevin stated that he was aware, from his friend who had talked to someone here that we would be coming out on Monday. I said I cannot confirm or deny that, as I know nothing about it.

At 4:04pm on Thursday, April 25, 2013, Kevin text messaged the state cell phone. He said "Hey ya'll might want to go ahead and come up here tomorrow. Cuz I overheard them saying that they are going to bring a trailer over here to haul all the dead animals off." Angela asked if the shelter euthanizes every day. He said "Sometimes".

At 5:37pm on Thursday, April 25, 2013 Kevin called my work phone. He did not leave a message.

At 7:55am on Friday, April 26, 2013 Kevin called the state cell phone. I spoke with him. He was calling to tell us that he looked on the "pad" and counted that they will be euthanizing 33 animals today, but he doesn't know which animals are listed. He doesn't understand the system they use. I confirmed what he told us yesterday about a discussion by management to bring a trailer up there. He said they are bringing a trailer, but he's not sure it's for the animals. I asked him if he had heard anything about what will be done with the dead animals once they are loaded onto this trailer. He said he has not heard anything.

At 8:09am on Friday, April 26, 2013, Kevin texted a picture to the state cell phone. I asked for an explanation. He said it was "three baby kittens too dead one live barely and they are just leaving them sitting in the cage." I asked if anyone had notified them of the live kitten and the location of the cage. He replied "yes me and my friend has notified the manager. And Jason said that he is going to hit it later. And no the cage is inside quarantine." I asked if "hit it" means to euthanize. He replied "yes". I asked him to let me know how much time passes before that kitten is euthanized. He replied "and they are not using that trailer for the dead animals. They had to go pick up a motorcycle while they are on the clock."

At 8:26am on Friday, April 26, 2013, Kevin called the state cell phone. I spoke with him. He said that he was notified by his friend (the female caller from the previous day) who was told by Ashley, who was told by Angela Wallace that they are just going to let the dead animals pile up because no one wants to dirty their vehicles with the dead animals to take them to the landfill. I asked if he had heard that the landfill was willing to accept their dead animals now. He stated he had not heard anything. His female friend then got on the phone and told me that Ashley told her all they had to do was load them up and take them to the landfill but no one will because they don't want to dirty their car or mess up their tires. I asked her about if she had heard from anyone that the landfill was willing to take their dead animals. She said she hasn't heard personally.

Before the call ended, Kevin stated that he was standing there petting a dog that was loose and unsupervised in the back area. It was roaming past the "sick bay" area and the kennels that had just been cleaned. This dog was one that had been adopted out to a friend of management, but when the gentleman moved to Shreveport, he could not take the dog and it was returned to the shelter and has become a "shelter dog" of sorts.

At 8:44am on Friday, April 26, 2013, Angela Hopkins finally received a call back from Jeffery Hammerbacher, the transport officer for Tyler animal control. Angela wanted to confirm the validity of what the shelter employees said he witnessed concerning the dead puppy in with 2 live puppies. He confirmed that was what he saw and that he notified someone about the dead puppy. Angela asked him to write up in detail what he saw and sign it, providing us an affidavit of what he witnessed. He said he would do so. He also stated he came back and told Bob Garner, his supervisor, what he saw.

At 10:20am on Friday, April 26, 2013, Kevin called the state cell phone. I spoke with him. He was calling to give me information on the pictures he had just sent. In one of the pictures, Jason is sitting on the ground of the cat isolation room in front of various kennels, one of which is holding a cat, with 6 kittens. One of the kittens is in his hands and he is euthanizing it. He sent two other pictures of three puppies, 2 in one run and one in its own run, which had been euthanized there in the runs. I asked where the runs were located. He said they are in the dog isolation area. None of this is visible by the public. He sent 2 pictures showing the 6 euthanized kittens that were left in a pile on the ground of the isolation room in full view of at least one cat. Kevin said he and his friend were told to go bag them and put them in the run with the other bags of dead animals. I asked Kevin if he knew why they were euthanizing puppies and kittens. I asked if they did not have enough room at the shelter. He stated he did not know why they were euthanizing puppies and kittens.

At 11:52am on Friday, April 26, 2013, Jeffery Hammerbacher from Tyler Animal Control knocked on the office door. He brought his affidavit concerning the incident with the dead puppy in with the live puppies he witnessed. As Angela was reading it, he stated that Braun and Angela were not there at the time of this incident. As soon as Braun opened the gate to let him in, he and Angela Wallace left.

At 1:13pm on Friday, April 26, 2013, Kevin and the previous female caller called the state cell phone. I spoke with them. I had asked Kevin previously that morning to notify me when the kitten seen in the kennel with the 2 dead kittens was euthanized. He stated that Jason went in there about 10:15 this morning to euthanize the kitten and the mother. The kitten had expired before this time. The mother cat was euthanized in the kennel. I asked how long the two dead kittens were left in the kennel with the live kitten and the mother. The female caller said they stayed there until she cleaned the kennel at 11am. I asked who was doing the euthanasia. I was told Jason was doing all the euthanasia and Nathan was helping hold dogs. I was told that Angela and Braun left during the morning with the trailer to go pick up Braun's motorcycle. I asked for specifics of the location of the runs holding the bags of dead animals. The female caller said they are in the runs across the driveway from the sick bay area. The distance, she estimated to be 12-15 feet. At this time, there are 2 dogs in the sick bay area; the German shepherd puppy and a new puppy put out there today. This is an area the public is not allowed to go into. The entire time the euthanasia was happening, there was no management on the premises. Both

callers stated that Jason and Ashley have keys to every lock in the establishment. I asked if they saw evidence of a log for Jason to make notes on the euthanasia solution he was using. The female caller stated the only thing she saw him carrying was a chart showing which animals were to be euthanized. I asked specifically about the cat involved in the incident with Ashley. The female caller said it was still alive, still in quarantine. I asked if it appeared injured from the incident. The female caller said it did not...it was just mean and aggressive. I asked if this was different from the behavior it exhibited in the isolation room and was told no. The female caller said she was unsure why the cat was back in isolation to begin with and that she told Ashley it was a strange cat. It would rub up against the bars of its cage to try to get you to love on it, and then it would turn around and bite you when you did. I asked how long it was in quarantine for. The female caller said until Wednesday. I asked if they put more animals down than was listed on the pad this morning because of the amount of new bags added in the pictures sent to the state cell. I was told a husky puppy was pulled from the adoption area and euthanized because it coughed and 2 cats from the cat adoption area were pulled and euthanized because they sneezed. I asked if any of the animals euthanized today were done in the euthanasia room. I was told a few, but most were done in their cages. I asked what happened to the puppies in the crate shown on top of the freezer in one of the pictures. I was told that crate was moved inside somewhere.

I asked about the boxer running free in one of the pictures. I was told that this was the dog Braun had rescued and his friend had adopted from the shelter, and then had to return because he could not take the dog with him to Shreveport.

I was told that all of the freezers do not seal properly, but only one is not functioning at all. They reiterated that all of the freezers are full.

In the picture with the boxer, is a washer. I asked about it and was told that all the washers and dryers there are not working. They said this was the case for approximately 2 months. The bags of used bedding are being stored on the side of the building. When I repeated what they told me to clarify what was happening with the soiled bedding, I was told by the female caller that Angela Wallace took 5-6 large (55 gallon) bags stuffed full of bedding to be washed on Tuesday of last week (4/16/2013). As of today, the callers have not seen these bags or bedding returned to the shelter. I asked what was being used in the cages in lieu of bedding. The female caller said that for the cats in the quarantine, isolation and adoption areas, she was putting newspaper in the cages. For the dogs, they are getting no bedding at all.

In the picture with the boxer, I noticed that the grass was severely overgrown. I asked when the last time they saw someone servicing the yard. I was told they have never seen anyone service the yard. I was told there was a push lawn mower beside the fence, but they have never seen it used.

Because of the overgrown yard and the presence of lots of dead animals, I asked if they had seen any evidence of rats or mice. I was told that they have seen both. The female caller said that last week, they caught 14-15 on the sticky traps that management purchased. I was told that one time, when they opened the freezer, a mouse was on the top and ran away.

At 2:41pm on Friday, April 26, 2013, I returned a missed phone call to Kevin from the state cell phone. She was calling to tell us that there is a truck coming in 10-15 minutes to collect all the dead animals. I asked if he had heard any information about where the truck will take the carcasses. He said he had not heard anything.

He asked if they are supposed to treat dogs with wounds. I asked for clarification. He said they had 2 dogs brought in, housed in the same cage. One had open wounds on it, looked like wounds from a fight. They put the 2 dogs in the same cage and they started fighting, one of them taking injury. They separated the dogs, but according to Kevin, there is no intention of giving this injured dog medical attention. He made reference to a dog that had a broken leg a while back that lay in the cage for 10-15 days before it was euthanized. He also described an instance he remembered of a dog that had been shot in the hindquarters that lay in a cage for 2 weeks before it was finally euthanized. He said he would attempt to get a picture of the newly injured dog.

At 3:41pm on Friday, April 26, 2013, I received a call from Kevin Allen. He called to inform me that a dump truck from "Republic Services" had come to collect all the dead animals.

At 7:40am on Monday, April 29, 2013, Angela Hopkins received a call from Kevin to give her the county commissioner's contact information. Her name is Dr. Pinotti at (903) 445-7945. She had asked him to give us her number because she has a couple of things to add to the case.

At 8:09am on Monday, April 29, 2013, Angela called Dr. Pinotti and left a message on the answering machine to call her back.

At 9:25am on Monday, April 29, 2013, Dr. Pinotti returned Angela's call. She said that she really didn't have anything to add to the case, that she found out about this during a conversation with Kevin. She recommended he call the local health department. She did say that she, as a commissioner, knew that their council gave money to the shelter and was concerned that if they are not doing things right, that they should not give them money. She asked for a copy of the inspection. Angela informed her it was available through an open records request. She told Angela that she could contact her if there was anything she could do to assist in this matter.

At 11:50am on Tuesday, May 1, 2013, Joseph DeGuzman from Cherokee County Health Department called and left a message on Dr. Hergert's phone requesting a call back. He asked to be "kept in the loop" concerning the animal shelter out there.

At 10:54am on Wednesday, May 2, 2013, Toni Wright, the Communicable Disease Manager at DSHS called and wanted to know who was the director of the shelter was and how long she had been there. I stated that Angela Wallace was the Director, but I was unsure how long she had been there. I stated she was there at least from November 2007 forward. She also wanted to confirm that Dr. Hergert pulled the shelter's quarantine license. I verified this for her.

At 1:05pm on Wednesday, May 2, 2013, Kevin Allen called. He said that somehow the animal shelter had obtained copies of the pictures and that Angela just got through having Tamara, (the female caller

from before) write up a statement about the picture of the live kitten in with the dead ones. He said that Jason and Ashley told Angela Wallace that Tamara put the kittens back in the crate, when Tamara says she witnessed Jason and Ashley put the kittens in the crate.

He also asked how he could get a copy of our report. He stated that Ms. Pinotti wanted him to get the information for her.

At 2:01pm on Thursday, May 3, 2013 Joseph DeGuzman from Cherokee County Health Department called to speak with Dr. Hergert. I explained she was out and he verified her cell number before stating he would call her on it.

At 1:25pm on Monday, May 6, 2013, I received a call from Kevin Allen and an unknown gentleman. Kevin stated that he and Tamara were about to quit. I asked why and was told that he is being kept outside away from the animals. He then turned the phone over to the unknown gentleman who did not want to give his name. He started working there on Tuesday. He wanted to inform me that today, while they were performing euthanasia at the shelter; they had put down quite a few of the "sweetest" dogs. He didn't understand why they were euthanating such good dogs and stated he was an animal lover and doesn't get paid enough to watch good dogs be killed.

I gave Kevin the phone number for Katy Jarl at the Humane Society and suggested he give her a call. I stated she would be very interested to hear about what has been occurring at the shelter. He then asked how he could get a copy of our report. I gave him the phone number for Sherry Mansell in Austin.

Dr. Hergert entered the office and overheard me giving Kevin the phone numbers. I put Kevin on speaker phone and asked him to tell Dr. Hergert what he told me at the beginning of the conversation. He told her how he and Tamara were about to quit. She asked why. He said that they are finding any reason in the world to yell at him. He has been on crate cleaning duty for 2 weeks and they tell him he's not doing it right or that they are facing the wrong way. He stated that he had a doctor appointment today and was yelled at for taking the call to speak with them about it. Kevin stated that they were asking Tamara who took the pictures. She was very upset and Kevin told her not to quit and to tell Angela he took the photos.

Dr. Hergert spoke with Kevin and told him he will most likely be contacted in the future by the detective and possibly the board members. She told him to call Katy.

Before the call ended, Kevin said that Jason quit today. When Dr. Hergert asked if he knew why he quit, he said Tamara and another employee told him that Jason quit because he found a better job at one of his old jobs. He also stated that Tamara has seen Nathan performing euthanasia.

At 12:58pm on Tuesday, May 7, 2013, I received a call from Dr. Ira Stephens, DVM of the Animal Medical Clinic. He was calling to inform us that he keeps getting complaints about the Klein animal shelter. The most recent one was from a client of his who said she took her dog up there earlier and the shelter staff took her dog to the back (she was not allowed to go) and gave it a rabies vaccination and heartworm medication. Dr. Stephens was concerned that they were doing this without a veterinarian present. As



far as he knew, Dr. Justin Cavitt, DVM only works at the shelter on Thursdays when he does low cost spay and neuter.

I informed Dr. Stephens that we had recently received complaints about the shelter that we were following up on and that I would add his information to ours.