

February 16, 2007

Missouri Department of Agriculture
PO Box 630
1616 Missouri Boulevard
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re: Questionable Animal Shelter/Rescue = RAINBOW RANCH, Operated by Debi Baker

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

(Recently I sent an e-mail but I'm not sure you received it so I'm following up with this letter)

I am reporting and requesting the Department to investigate a Missouri shelter/rescue:

After I purchased a puppy from Rainbow Ranch, I spoke with two other Missouri shelters/rescues and they raised several issues about Rainbow Ranch's practices. I feel I have to report those issues to the Department:

- Is Rainbow Ranch properly licensed
- Is it operating as a legitimate non-profit and if not
- Should she be reported to the Department of Revenue
- Is it operating as a profit-making entity vs. true shelter/rescue
- Has it had the required inspections, especially for cleanliness and animal care

I'm asking because the puppy I adopted/purchased:

- Was not neutered
- Was malnourished and severely underweight
- Was badly infected with worms (even though I was told he had been wormed)
- Was badly infected with earmites

And because:

- The operator could give me no information about the puppy's provenance
- The operator would only accept cash payment
- The operator requested I make payment directly to her personally not to Rainbow Ranch
- The operator charged \$350 for this puppy compared to other shelters/rescues charging \$150 for neutered and chipped animals
- It is known that Debi Baker has been operating in this manner for years

I request anonymity with regard to this complaint, but if you need to contact me please do. Respectfully,
