



Inspection Report

Blue Ridge Kennel
P.O. Box 1207
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Customer ID: **928**
Certificate: **64-R-0102**
Site: 001
BLUE RIDGE KENNEL

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: 24-JAN-2023

2.33(b)(2) Direct Repeat
Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

One dog had medical issues that had been previously treated by the Attending Veterinarian (AV) but for which appropriate follow up care had not been sought.

***A 10-year-old female yellow Labrador dog ("Spring", microchip 900215003196994) was seen limping on the right hind leg and putting very little weight on the limb; medical records note that the animal has an old injury to the right knee and the animal was started on anti-inflammatory medication on December 5, 2022. However, the animal remains extremely reluctant to bear weight on the right hind limb and shows increased effort when moving around due to the animal being unwilling or unable to put weight on the limb. The facility has not sought follow up care for this animal.

Medical records show that multiple dogs failed to receive medications on the schedule prescribed by the Attending Veterinarian.

***An 8-year-old female Weimaraner ("Star", microchip #995112004242291 was prescribed an antibiotic (doxycycline) twice a day beginning on January 11, 2023. Her evening dose of this medication was not administered on January 19, 2023 or January 23, 2023. This dog was also prescribed 0.45cc ivermectin on December 19, 2022 and at the time of the inspection still had not been given this medication.

***A 12-year-old neutered male Golden Retriever ("Thor", microchip #956000005047348) was prescribed antibiotics twice

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a day beginning on January 17, 2023. This dog was not given his evening dose of antibiotics on January 20, 2023 or January 23, 2023.

***A 10-year-old female yellow Labrador dog ("Spring", microchip 900215003196994) was prescribed medications and was not given all doses. This dog was not given her evening medication on January 23, 2023.

***A 10-year-old Black Labrador Retriever ("Blackie" microchip #956000004042894) was prescribed a twice daily medication for urinary incontinence. Medical records show that multiple doses of this medication were missed (not administered).

Animals who fail to substantially improve with treatment must be reported to the AV for appropriate follow up care. Failure to give medications as prescribed by the AV can result animals experiencing pain, stress, or worsening disease. Correct by using appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries in consultation with the AV, including the timely provision of follow-up care and administration of medications as prescribed by the AV.

2.33(b)(3) Direct Repeat
Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

Multiple dogs had medical issues that had not been identified by the facility or treated by the Attending Veterinarian (AV) prior to the inspection.

***A 10-year-old female yellow Labrador dog ("Spring", microchip 900215003196994) had an approximate 0.5 inch diameter firm round mammary mass on the right side. Adjacent to this mass were several pink skin sutures. Facility personnel had not identified the mammary mass or sutures prior to the inspection. There is no mammary mass noted in the medical records and no recent surgery records to explain the sutures.

***An 8-year-old female Weimaraner ("Star", microchip #995112004242291) had an approximately 2-inch-long oval shaped firm movable lump in the middle of her back, over the spine in the lower back area. This lump had not been identified by the facility staff prior to the inspection, had not been documented in the medical records, and had not been

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communicated to the Attending Veterinarian (AV).

***A 2-year-old male Beagle dog (“Ranger”, microchip #956000012520481) was very thin. When viewed from above and from the side, the ribs and backbone are clearly visible. In addition, an abdominal tuck and prominent waist were observed. The dog’s ribs and backbone were easily palpable with very little fat overlying the bones. This dog was not identified by the facility as being excessively thin prior to the inspection. Medical records show the dog was last evaluated by the Attending Veterinarian in May 2022, there are no entries since that time. According to facility records, the dog has lost 3.2 lbs since November: the document provided by the facility representative stated this dog weighed 22.4 lbs in November 2023 and 19.2 lbs in December 2023, a loss of 14.2% body weight in one month.

***A 12-year-old female yellow Labrador dog (“Blue”, microchip #956000012520839) has difficulty standing, walking, and moving around her enclosure. The dog moves slowly and is reluctant to walk. She has noticeable weakness in her hind legs. Her hind limbs are noticeably stiff, with little muscle, and she appeared to have difficulty controlling them to maintain normal posture. The facility had not identified this dog as having issues with her hind limbs prior to the inspection, and medical records show no observation or entries since April 2022.

***Two dogs had severe dental disease that had not been previously identified by the facility:

The first dog, a 5-year-old female Harrier dog (“Penny”, microchip 956000012520534) had severe dental disease. Thick brown hard material was seen on the back upper teeth, covering the teeth completely, and the gums around these teeth were red and swollen. There was a small amount of grey material at the gum line.

The second dog, a 10-year-old male yellow Labrador dog (“Eagles” microchip #3196987) had severe dental disease. On the left side there was thick brown material covering most of the upper back teeth. On the right side there was thick brown material completely covering three upper back teeth with grey material and hair present at the gum line. The gums around all of the affected teeth were red and swollen.

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Daily observation of animals for health and behavior problems is essential for the prompt identification and treatment of these issues. Animals who have problems that are not promptly identified by the facility and communicated to the attending veterinarian may suffer from discomfort, pain, stress, disease progression, and even death. Correct by ensuring that daily observations are conducted on all animals, and that all issues are reported to the Attending Veterinarian promptly so that assessment and treatment can be provided.

3.13(b)(2) Repeat

Veterinary care for dogs.

Medical records were incomplete for multiple dogs.

***According to disposition records, a 10-year-old female black Labrador dog (“Magic” microchip #956000012534948) was euthanized on January 3, 2023. The dog’s medical record contains no entries since May 22, 2022. The kennel manager stated that the dog was euthanized because it was not doing well. The dog’s medical record contains no information about its condition, health issues, or reason for euthanasia.

***An 8-year-old male Weimaraner dog (“Klondyke”, microchip 985112005804444) was taken to the veterinarian for evaluation of his thin body condition, but nothing is noted in the records regarding the dog’s condition or results of veterinary evaluation.

Medical records show that two animals have received treatments for future dates: Medical records for “Thor” (microchip #956000005047348) show that the morning dose of an antibiotic (Cephalexin) has been given for January 25, 2023 (1 day in the future). Medical records for “Spring” (microchip 900215003196994) show that she has been given morning doses of thyroxin daily through January 29, 2023 (5 days in the future). The kennel manager stated that she marks off treatments given in the medical record in advance when she knows she will be present on site administering the medications all week.

Complete and accurate medical records are essential for animal health and welfare. These records capture information

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about health problems found, instructions from the attending veterinarian, treatment plans, and test results. Records allow for continuity of care when staffing or routines change and eliminates confusion about an animal's past or current medical issues.

Correct by ensuring that medical records include all required elements under the Animal Welfare Act, including documentation of problems identified, treatment plans, and treatments administered.

This inspection was conducted with the principle investigator and facility staff, and the exit interview was conducted with the principle investigator and a facility consultant.

Additional Inspectors:

Jonathan Tomkovitch, VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
928	64-R-0102	001	BLUE RIDGE KENNEL	24-JAN-2023

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000087	<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>	DOG ADULT
000087	Total	