

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pet-Abuse.Com is a non-profit organization that provides online resources to **empower animal welfare organizations** to make informed decisions about volunteer or adoption applicants by **performing criminal background searches on potential volunteer and adoption candidates.**

You may have followed the movements of Shon Rahrig, convicted animal abuser. Rahrig started in Ohio where he adopted several cats from a local shelter and then brutally tortured them by cutting their paws off and poking their eyes out with sticks. Rahrig was later sighted in Southern California at an adoption event, and is now known to have relocated to Fort Myers, Florida.

Rahrig has been able to slip under the radar of the shelters in the towns he has lived in because there was no way to track abusers from state to state.

Another example is animal abuser Stephen Barry King, who started his legacy of abuse in Portland, Oregon and has gone as far as relocating to London, England - where he was convicted of animal abuse crimes.

Other abusers have attempted to adopt from shelters in their own areas using slightly altered spellings of their name to avoid being identified as a convicted animal abuser.

What We Do

Our organization tracks, documents and reports criminal animal abuse and abusers. We provide this information in a *searchable online database*. We currently have over 830 criminal cases documented in our database within the United States alone, and over 800 abusers.

There is **absolutely no charge** for shelters and rescue groups to use this resource - and there *never* will be. Your animal welfare organization works hard for every penny you bring in to fund your own projects to benefit animals in need, so we find alternate ways to fund our project in order to ensure that cost will be *never* be a prohibiting factor.

Our website allows you to:

- ✓ ***Perform phonetic searches on potential volunteer/adoption applicant's names*** to check for a criminal history of animal abuse.
- ✓ ***Access real-time statistical graphs*** that display important information about patterns regarding age, gender, and the clearly established connection between animal abuse and violence towards humans.
- ✓ ***Enhance your own website with our Dot Org Workshop website tools***, including a Euthanasia Counter, a live animal abuse case news feed that displays the most recent animal abuse cases in your region on your website, a Responsible Pet Owners Test and more.

- ✓ **Speak to us directly online using our one-on-one Live Support chat.** We are available almost 24/7 to answer your questions or help you find the information you are seeking.

We are funded solely by donations from the public and from our own pockets. **We will never charge any fee for animal welfare organizations to have access to the information we provide.** The fact is - our resources are useless unless shelters and rescues are actively using it.

How to Get Started

Getting started is easy – there is **no software to install**, and no special access codes to use – simply log on to our website at **www.pet-abuse.com**. The animal abuse database can be accessed by clicking on the “Abuse Database” option in the navigation bar.

What We Ask In Return

The only things we ask in return for the information we provide is:

- ✓ **Spread the word!** Share this resource with your other local animal welfare organizations. The more this database is used, the more effective it will be at preventing abusers from having easy access to adopting or "rescuing" animals. The backbone of this project is forged from animal welfare organizations and concerned citizens working together to put an end to animal abuse.
- ✓ **Share your local case information with us!** If you work directly (*or indirectly for that matter*) with a humane law enforcement organization or animal control department, encourage them to contact us and share their cases so that everyone can share this information. If you hear of new criminal animal abuse cases (or updates to cases already listed in the database) in your area, *let us know*. The more case information we have, the better this resource will be. You can find out more about the information we require in order to submit a case to the animal abuse here:
<http://www.pet-abuse.com/database/caseinfo.php>

We hope that you will take advantage of the free services and resources we offer. Please feel free to call or email us with any questions.

Sincerely,

Alison L. Gianotto
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Director
Pet-Abuse.Com