

**Animal Welfare Section**  
**NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**  
**1030 Mail Service Center**  
**Raleigh, NC 27699-1030**  
phone: (919) 715-7111 FAX: (919) 733-6431  
e-mail: aws.agr@ncagr.gov  
URL: www.ncaws.com

## Complaint investigation

Date of inspection

Apr 13, 2015

245

Complaint #:

License #

2

license type

44 - Public shelter

Columbus County Animal Shelter

Name of business

Columbus County Government

Name of owner

288 Legion Drive

Street address

Whiteville

City

NC

28472

ZIP code

Columbus

County

+1 (910) 641-3945

Phone Number

## Description of Complaint

AWS received a complaint alleging this facility did not provide adequate veterinary care to the following 4 cats during March and April 2015:

Case #1 - Impound number 33950 "Shelby" Female Siamese Mix Cat. Complaint: Cat unable to walk, eat or drink - lay in litter box entire time.

Case #2 - Impound number 33334 "Pepper" Male Tabby Cat. Complaint: Complex fracture - broken hind leg - no medical attention given at shelter. Rear leg dangling and cat unable to use leg or walk.

Case #3 - Impound number 34027 "Modesty" Female White Cat. Complaint: Gaping hole in side of head - abscess and infection. No medical attention given.

Case #4 - Impound number 33951 "Tosco" Male Black and White Cat. Complaint: Bites, wounds and abscesses over most of body. Cat was taken to a veterinarian who gave one antibiotic shot but did not note the numerous wounds on abdomen, stomach and legs. Another veterinarian examined the cat, treated the wounds and immediately asked to put this cat on a 6 month Rabies quarantine before adopting it out. Cat is currently being quarantined as requested.

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### Results of Investigation

Case #1 - Impound number 33950 "Shelby" Female Siamese Mix Cat - The shelter attendants stated they were unaware this cat had any injury. They noted the cat had food 24 / 7 but did not know if it ate. They noted the cat was seen lying in the litter pan. The cat was adopted on March 10, 2015. A shelter attendant stated Ms. Wheeler notified them on March 11, 2015 that the cat was severely injured with two broken ribs, blood in the lungs and bite marks all over the body of the kitten.

See attached veterinary care reports.

Case #2 - Impound number 33334 "Pepper" Male Tabby Cat - The shelter attendants stated they were unaware this cat had injuries. They noted no problems with the cat and the cat had access to food 24 / 7 but did not note if they saw the cat eating.

See attached veterinary care reports.

Case #3 - Impound number 34027 "Modesty" Female White Cat - One of shelter attendants stated at some time after 12pm on March 13, 2015 the cat appeared to have scratched one of the old scabs off the back of one of her ears. On March 13, 2015 Cat Adoption Team adopted this cat. The attendant stated she notified CAT that the cat had just scratched the scabs off. The attendant also noted the shelter director was present at that time.

The other attendant stated the cat had food 24 / 7 but did not know if it ate and did not have any problems with the cat.

See attached veterinary care reports.

Case #4 - Impound number 33951 "Tosco" Male Black and White Cat - Upon impoundment on March 4, 2015 the cat was noted to have an injury at the rear end. The director was notified and the cat was taken to the shelter veterinarian. After receiving medical care the cat was returned to the shelter. The director requested the attendant find a rescue to take the cat. On March 6, 2015 CAT adopted the cat. On March 7, 2015 CAT representative, Julie Wheeler notified the shelter that the cat's injuries were more severe than the vet.'s records showed. The shelter director was notified of this complaint by the attendant. The other shelter attendant stated that the cat had food 24/7 but did not know when it ate nor did he notice any problem with the cat.

See attached veterinary care reports.

Digital signature  
of inspector

Pat M. Sholar

Digitally signed by Pat M. Sholar  
DN: cn=Pat M. Sholar, o=NCDA&CS,  
ou=AWS,  
email=pat.sholar@ncagr.gov, c=US  
Date: 2015.04.15 13:43:57 -04'00'

check here if additional pages of narrative are attached

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Phone Number

**Description of Complaint**

AWS received a complaint alleging this facility did not provide adequate veterinary care to the following 2 cats during March and April 2015:

Case #1 - Impound number 34096 "Mojo" Male, Neutered Siamese Mix Cat - Injuries to the front left foreleg and lower jaw. Cat was in the shelter for 4 days without any medical care.

Case #2 - Impound number 34087 "Liam" Male Neutered Siamese Mix Cat - Thinning of fur.

Columbus County Animal Shelter

Columbus County Government

Whiteville

NC

### Results of Investigation

Case #1 - Impound number 34096 "Mojo" Male Neutered Siamese Mix Cat - One shelter attendant stated on March 31, 2015 an old injury was noted on the front left leg. The attendant noted it appeared to be an old scab from an injury. The attendant stated it was shown to the rescue (Operation Topcat) at that time. The rescue representative agreed to take the cat. The other attendant stated the cat had access to food 24 / 7 but did not know if it ate. This attendant also stated he did not notice any problems with the cat.

See attached veterinary care reports.

Case #2 - Impound number 34087 "Liam" Male Neutered Siamese Mix Cat - When the cat was admitted to the shelter the attendants were aware of the thinning fur and stated they did not consider it to be a life threatening issue. This was an owner surrender which the owner advised the shelter attendant that the cat was being surrendered because he had a skin allergy and would not stay in the house. The shelter attendant stated the skin condition was noted when the cat was posted for adoption. The attendant stated on March 31, 2015 when Operation Topcat came to adopt the cat that she notified them of the issues with the cat's skin.

See attached veterinary care reports.

Digital signature  
of inspector

Pat M. Sholar

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ou=AWS,  
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check here if additional pages of narrative are attached