



**Steven W. Troxler**  
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
*Veterinary Division*

**Christina L. Waggett**  
Assistant Commissioner  
for Consumer Protection

**Michael Martin, DVM**  
State Veterinarian

April 20, 2025

Chip Crumpler  
County Manager  
Wayne County Animal Adoption and Education Center  
224 E. Walnut Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
Via Hand Delivery

**NOTICE of CIVIL PENALTY**

**Re: CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT for VIOLATIONS of TITLE 02 N.C. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (“NCAC”) CHAPTER 52J SECTIONS .0101(6); .0206(a); and .0210(a)(3) and (d).**

**AWS-CP-2026-3**

**Facility: Wayne County Animal Adoption and Education Center  
Registration Number: 78**

Dear County Manager Crumpler:

Pursuant to NCGS § 19A-40, I am issuing this notice that you, as the operator of the Wayne County Animal Adoption and Education Center (“the shelter”), are hereby assessed a civil penalty of \$2,900.00 as provided in the enclosed Notice of Violation.

With regard to the civil penalty, within 60 days from the date of receipt of this Notice, you must do one of the following:

1. Pay the civil penalty assessment; or
2. File a written petition for a contested case hearing with the N.C. Office of Administrative Hearings to appeal the penalty assessment.
3. Pursuant to NCGS § 150B-22, initiate informal settlement negotiations. To negotiate a settlement of this assessment, you may contact me by telephone at (919) 707-3280. Settlement offers do not extend the 60-day deadline for payment or filing of a contested case petition.

Additional information about your options is provided below:

## **PAYMENT**

To pay the penalty, please send your payment by check or money order made payable to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to:

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Dr. Patricia Norris  
Director, Animal Welfare Section  
1030 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1030

## **APPEAL**

If you file a contested case petition, it must be in writing and in the form prescribed by NCGS § 150B-23. The petition must be filed with the N.C. Office of Administrative Hearings (“OAH”) within 60 days from the date of this document. Additionally, the petition must be accompanied by a filing fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00). Payment can be made by cash, money order, certified check or check drawn on an attorney’s trust account. Make checks payable to: Office of Administrative Hearings. File the petition and one copy with:

Office of Administrative Hearings  
6714 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-6714

Any questions about filing a petition may be directed to the Clerk of OAH by telephone at 919-431-3000.

You must serve NCDA&CS by mailing a copy of the petition to:

Mr. Jonathan Lanier  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Registered Agent and General Counsel  
1001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1001

Payment of the penalty will not foreclose further enforcement action against you for any new violation. If the violations which resulted in the assessment are of a continuing nature, NCDA&CS reserves the right to assess additional civil penalties in the future or take other enforcement action against you. Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Patricia Norris, DVM, MS  
Director, Animal Welfare Section

Attachment: Notice of Violations, Assessment of Civil Penalty

cc: Michael Martin, DVM, State Veterinarian  
Jonathan Lanier, General Counsel, NCDA&CS  
Christina L. Waggett, Assistant Commissioner, NCDA&CS  
Lindsey Spain, Special Deputy Attorney General

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAYNE

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER  
SERVICES, VETERINARY DIVISION  
ANIMAL WELFARE SECTION

IN THE MATTER of )  
 )  
WAYNE COUNTY )  
 )  
OWNER of WAYNE COUNTY )  
 )  
ANIMAL ADOPTION and )  
 )  
EDUCATION CENTER )

NOTICE of VIOLATION and  
ASSESSMENT of CIVIL PENALTY  
for VIOLATIONS of TITLE 02 NC  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (“NCAC”) CHAPTER  
52J SECTIONS .0101(6); .0206(a); .0210(a)(3)  
and (d).

Acting pursuant to NCGS § 19A-40, Dr. Patricia Norris, Director, Animal Welfare Section (“AWS”), North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (“NCDA&CS”) makes the following:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. At all times pertinent to this matter, the Wayne County Animal Adoption and Education Center (“the shelter”), owned and operated by Wayne County, was an animal shelter registered pursuant to NCGS §19A-26.
2. On March 30, 2026, AWS received a complaint alleging that the shelter failed to provide veterinary care to a cat named Clover for her fractured back and pelvis. Based on this information, AWS opened an investigation. The investigation centered on possible violation(s) of the N.C. Animal Welfare Act (“AWA”) as these statutes and associated regulations are the extent of the jurisdiction of AWS.
3. On March 31, 2026, AWS Veterinary Program Specialist Lynn (“Inspector Lynn”) conducted the site visit portion of the complaint investigation. This following information was obtained during this site visit:
  - a. In violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0101(6), the shelter records for this cat (Intake #A00606295, renamed Clover) were not accurate and had not been updated within 48 hours. The shelter staff relayed that they had provided veterinary treatment for the cat’s wounds/lesions at the time of intake on March 9, 2026. The shelter records failed to note the visible skin lesions or that treatment was provided to the cat. In addition, the shelter staff reported that on March 23, 2026, the veterinarian that provided spay/neuter services to the shelter examined the cat. This veterinary examination was not documented in the cat’s shelter record;
  - b. In violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0206(a), the shelter failed to provide continuous access to fresh, potable water to dogs in 10 enclosures as noted at 1:00 pm on March 31, 2026. The shelter director admitted that these dogs had not had any access to water so far that day. The shelter had been previously cited for this violation in the “Disapproved” Facility Compliance Inspection report on April 14, 2025;
  - c. In violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0210(a)(3), the shelter failed to follow its Program of Veterinary Care (“PVC”) detailed in its 2025/2026 AWS Animal Shelter Registration application. In this

application, the shelter stated that “all animals that come into the shelter ill are seen by a veterinarian as soon as possible and are treated or humanly (sic) euthanized after being seen by a veterinarian.” This cat was not examined by a veterinarian until March 23, 2026 despite having visible skin lesions on intake and developing additional skin lesions after being given an injection of antibiotics on March 11, 2026. Reportedly, the veterinarian recommended the cat to have radiographs (x-rays) taken due to a problem with its back and rear legs. This veterinary examination and recommendation were not documented in the shelter’s records. The veterinary recommendation for obtaining radiographs was not followed by the shelter, nor was the cat euthanized in accordance with the shelter’s PVC; and

d. In violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0210(d), the shelter failed to provide adequate veterinary care in a timely manner to the cat (Intake #A00606295, renamed Clover). Upon intake, the cat was noted to have a visible skin lesion. Topical treatment was provided but not documented. A long-acting antibiotic injection was given 48 hours later without documentation of the justification for the injection. It did not appear that this injection was given in accordance with the veterinary standing order the shelter was using for this medication. A veterinarian recommended that the cat be radiographed because of abnormalities of her back and rear legs. The shelter failed to obtain the recommended radiographs but rather transferred the cat to a rescue 3 days later.

4. The cat, renamed Clover, was transferred to a rescue on March 26, 2026. The rescue took the cat directly to a veterinarian. Clover was found to be suffering from the following medical conditions:
- a. Fractured and dislocated L6/L7 vertebrae (the bones of the back near the pelvis);
  - b. Fractured and rotated wing of the ileum (pelvic bone);
  - c. Healing midline displaced fracture of the pelvis;
  - d. Healing puncture wounds (possibly from a dog bite) over the pelvis;
  - e. Tail fracture with callous (a callous is part of the healing process);
  - f. Abscess of the tail distal to the tail fracture; and
  - g. The remaining part of the tail beyond the abscess and fracture was devitalized (dead) and was subsequently amputated.

## CONCLUSIONS

To the extent that the Findings of Fact contain Conclusions of Law, or that the Conclusions of Law are Findings of Fact, they should be so considered without regard to the given labels. Based on the findings of the AWS investigation, AWS finds that the shelter violated the following provisions:

02 NCAC 52J .0101(6) for failure to maintain accurate records and failure to update records within 48 hours of occurrence of a procedure or administration of medication as noted on March 31, 2026.

02 NCAC 52J .0206(a) for failure to provide continuous access to fresh, potable water to dogs in 10 enclosures as noted on March 31, 2026. This violation had been previously cited in the “Disapproved” Facility Compliance Inspection report on April 14, 2025.

02 NCAC 52J .0210(a)(3) for failure to implement the Program of Veterinary Care detailed in the shelter’s 2025/2026 Animal Shelter Registration renewal application as noted on March 31, 2026.

02 NCAC 52J .0210(d) for failure to provide adequate veterinary care in a timely manner to the cat (Intake #A00606295) as noted on March 31, 2026.

Pursuant to NCGS §§ 19A-30 and 19A-40, these violations can result in the suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew a registration for any animal shelter and/or the assessment of a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 per violation.

### CIVIL PENALTIES

As required by NCGS § 19A-40, in determining the amount of the civil penalty, I have considered the degree and extent of harm caused by the violations listed above.

Accordingly, Wayne County, as the owner and operator of the Wayne County Animal Adoption and Education Center, is hereby assessed a civil penalty for the following violations:

\$200.00 for violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0101(6) for failure to maintain accurate records and failure to update records within 48 hours of occurrence of a procedure or administration of medication as noted on March 31, 2026.

\$2,000.00 for 10 violations (\$200.00 per violation) of 02 NCAC 52J .0206(a) for failure to provide continuous access to fresh, potable water to dogs in 10 enclosures as noted on March 31, 2026.

\$200.00 for violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0210(a)(3) for failure to implement the Program of Veterinary Care detailed in the shelter's 2025/2026 Animal Shelter Registration renewal application as noted on March 31, 2026.

\$500.00 for violation of 02 NCAC 52J .0210(d) for failure to provide adequate veterinary care in a timely manner to the cat renamed Clover (Intake #A00606295) as noted on March 31, 2026.

**\$2,900.00 TOTAL AMOUNT ASSESSED**

Continued or future violation of the statutes or regulations referenced in this letter will be considered a willful disregard or violation of the N.C. Animal Welfare Act and the rules issued pursuant thereto. Such willful disregard or violation may result in action against your facility's registration pursuant to NCGS § 19A-30 and/or the assessment of a civil penalty of up to \$5,000.00 per violation under NCGS § 19A-40.

(See Appendix for text of referenced General Statutes and Administrative Code)

April 20, 2026  
Date



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Patricia Norris, DVM, MS  
Director, Animal Welfare Section  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

## Appendix

### REFERENCED STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

#### **§ 19A-26. Certificate of registration required for animal shelter.**

No person shall operate an animal shelter unless a certificate of registration for such animal shelter shall have been granted by the Director. Application for such certificate shall be made in the manner provided by the Director. No fee shall be required for such application or certificate. Certificates of registration shall be valid for a period of one year or until suspended or revoked and may be renewed for like periods upon application in the manner provided.

#### **§ 19A-30. Refusal, suspension or revocation of certificate or license.**

The Director may refuse to issue or renew or may suspend or revoke a certificate of registration for any animal shelter or a license for any public auction, kennel, pet shop, or dealer, if after an impartial investigation as provided in this Article he determines that any one or more of the following grounds apply:

- (1) Material misstatement in the application for the original certificate of registration or license or in the application for any renewal under this Article;
- (2) Willful disregard or violation of this Article or any rules issued pursuant thereto;
- (3) Failure to provide adequate housing facilities and/or primary enclosures for the purposes of this Article, or if the feeding, watering, sanitizing and housing practices at the animal shelter, public auction, pet shop, or kennel are not consistent with the intent of this Article or the rules adopted under this Article;
- (4) Allowing one's license under this Article to be used by an unlicensed person;
- (5) Conviction of any crime an essential element of which is misstatement, fraud, or dishonesty, or conviction of any felony;
- (6) Making substantial misrepresentations or false promises of a character likely to influence, persuade, or induce in connection with the business of a public auction, commercial kennel, pet shop, or dealer;
- (7) Pursuing a continued course of misrepresentation of or making false promises through advertising, salesmen, agents, or otherwise in connection with the business to be licensed;
- (8) Failure to possess the necessary qualifications or to meet the requirements of this Article for the issuance or holding of a certificate of registration or license.

The Director shall, before refusing to issue or renew and before suspension or revocation of a certificate of registration or a license, give to the applicant or holder thereof a written notice containing a statement indicating in what respects the applicant or holder has failed to satisfy the requirements for the holding of a certificate of registration or a license. If a certificate of registration or a license is suspended or revoked under the provisions hereof, the holder shall have five days from such suspension or revocation to surrender all certificates of registration or licenses issued thereunder to the Director or his authorized representative.

A person to whom a certificate of registration or a license is denied, suspended, or revoked by the Director may contest the action by filing a petition under G.S. 150B-23 within five days after the denial, suspension, or revocation.

Any licensee whose license is revoked under the provisions of this Article shall not be eligible to apply for a new license hereunder until one year has elapsed from the date of the order revoking said license or if an appeal is taken from said order of revocation, one year from the date of the order or final

judgment sustaining said revocation. Any person who has been an officer, agent, or employee of a licensee whose license has been revoked or suspended and who is responsible for or participated in the violation upon which the order of suspension or revocation was based, shall not be licensed within the period during which the order of suspension or revocation is in effect.

#### **§ 19A-40. Civil Penalties.**

The Director may assess a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) against any person who violates a provision of this Article or any rule promulgated thereunder. In determining the amount of the penalty, the Director shall consider the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation. The clear proceeds of civil penalties assessed pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-457.2.

#### **02 NCAC 52J .0101 RECORDS; ANIMAL SHELTERS, ETC.**

Operators of all animal shelters, pet shops, public auctions, and dealers shall maintain records on all dogs and cats showing the following:

- (6) all records shall be created and/or updated within 48 hours of the occurrence of procedures, including but not limited to intake, change of location, medication or treatment administration and/or disposition. The record shall be accurate; creation of a misleading record or deliberate or non-incident falsification of a record including medication administration documentation during or after an investigation or inspection shall be considered a violation of this regulation.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-24; Eff. April 1, 1984; Amended Eff. January 1, 2005; April 1, 1985; Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

#### **02 NCAC 52J .0206 WATERING**

(a) Animals shall have continuous access to fresh, potable water, except as might otherwise be required to provide adequate veterinary care.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-24; 19A-30(3); Eff. April 1, 1984; Amended Eff. January 1, 2005; Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*

#### **02 NCAC 52J .0210 VETERINARY CARE**

(a) A written program of veterinary care ('PVC') to include disease control and prevention, vaccination, euthanasia (animal shelters only), disposition of diseased, ill, injured, infirm or deformed animals, and provision of adequate routine and emergency veterinary care shall be established with the assistance of a licensed veterinarian by any person who is required to be licensed or registered under the Animal Welfare Act, Article 3 of Chapter 19A of the General Statutes. The following is required of each PVC:

- (3) The facility shall implement and follow the PVC; and
- (d) Each dog and cat shall be observed daily by the animal caretaker who has been adequately trained or is experienced in animal care or is under the direct supervision of a person who has such training or experience. Sick or diseased, injured, lame, or blind dogs or cats shall be provided with adequate veterinary care in a timely manner or be euthanized, provided that the euthanasia shall not affect compliance with any state or local law requiring the holding, for a specified period, of animals suspected of being diseased. If an animal cannot be euthanized due to a required holding period and does not meet the criteria of G.S. 19A-32.1(b)(2), then adequate veterinary care shall be provided to the animal.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 19A-24; Eff. April 1, 1984; Amended Eff. March 23, 2009; January 1, 2005;  
Readopted Eff. September 1, 2022.*