Gina M. DiNardo
President and CEO
American Kennel Club

Dear Ms. DiNardo:

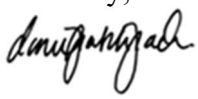
I'm writing to notify the American Kennel Club (AKC) of cruelty to animals occurring at Rosewood Kennels, an AKC registered and advertised dog-breeding facility in Delavan, Wisconsin. **The AKC must bear some responsibility for this cruelty and suffering, along with the misery of so many "purebred" dogs across the U.S.**

Earlier this month, an eyewitness visited Rosewood and spoke with its operator; video of the conversation is available here. The breeder admitted that she was "clipping [the] noses" of pugs she had bred by "cut[ting] off the bottom curl" of their nostrils. When the eyewitness asked if this were being done by a veterinarian, your registrant replied, "No, we would do it … at home" and laughed. She added, "We do that stuff … for ourselves." Of course, **it's the AKC's "official standard" for pugs—prescribing a "short" and "blunt" muzzle—that leaves them to, in your own words, "experience breathing problems," which this AKC registrant has tried to solve by crudely mutilating dogs**.

The breeder also boasted, "We do our own dewclaws, too. … [W]e cut [the dog's] thumb off." She affirmed that such puppies' dewclaws are "attached"—meaning connected via joints and tendons to bone—and said that the ensuing wounds "would bleed like a sieve. But we use silver nitrate, and it just burns it closed." Again, **the AKC's breed standard calls for pugs' dewclaws to be "generally removed" and drives breeders to inflict this pain on dogs**.

We don't expect that the AKC will drop its breed standards—which require certain breeds to exhibit physical traits that cause dogs to experience crippling pain, suffocation, and untimely death—or stop driving demand for dogs rather than promoting their health. We similarly doubt that you'll do away with registration fees for purebred dogs—like those sold by Rosewood—since they are a primary source of revenue for the AKC, to the tune of nearly $38 million in 2023. But won't you do one simple, right thing and strip Rosewood of all its privileges with your organization—including allowing it to register dogs and advertise with you? Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Daniel Paden
Vice President of Legal Advocacy

cc: Jason Hoke, Chain O'Lakes Kennel Club
Karen Wegner, Kankakee River Valley Kennel Club
Pete Severson, Janesville-Beloit Kennel Club