From: Jennifer Brost
To: Appeals

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Cancelation of Tenancy Permit 52-12

**Date:** Friday, October 11, 2024 12:04:26 AM

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## File# Regarding Cancelation of Tenancy Permit 52-12 @ 2, 69 East Lake crescent

#### Jennifer Brost

# **Statement on Working Conditions and Health Concerns**

During my time at [Name of Facility], I experienced significant issues related to unpleasant odors and unhealthy working conditions that compromised both staff and animal welfare.

In the summer, temperatures in the rescue room could reach as high as 85°F. This room housed small, unvaccinated puppies over eight weeks old and contained a washer, dryer, and cleaning system. At times, we dealt with piles of dirty laundry, some still soiled with feces and urine. This not only posed health risks for the animals but also created an unsafe environment for the staff.

Initially, we used high-quality cleaners designed for dog kennel facilities. However, as client numbers dwindled due to COVID-19 in 2020, our budget for cleaning supplies diminished. Consequently, we resorted to purchasing cheaper alternatives from online auctions that did not meet the necessary disinfecting standards. Additionally, we were using a standard washer and dryer instead of industrial-grade equipment.

The facility underwent renovations largely performed by unskilled staff, leading to further issues. For example, I personally installed VCT tiles, but was misinformed about proper sealing, resulting in urine pooling underneath. In one area, the floor was so saturated that stepping on it caused urine to leak out. The lack of proper ventilation exacerbated the ammonia smell, which was often noted by clients when entering the building.

Staff health was a persistent issue, with many employees frequently calling in sick. It wasn't until December, when the dogs were removed from the adjacent bay, that we realized the extent of our exposure to harmful conditions. We also dealt with infestations of ticks and mice, leading to constant cleanup of droppings. A notable incident involved a severely infested dog, which prompted a staff alert from the veterinarian's office about the fleas jumping onto their scrubs.

The backyard lacked an effective drainage system, making it impossible to clean properly. Initially, we pressure-washed the area, but were instructed to stop due to concerns about waste

### Letter of Opposition - Jennifer Brost (Received Oct 11, 2024)

runoff contaminating neighboring properties. The city also requested that we prevent any wastewater from crossing the fence line, complicating our cleaning efforts further.

Moreover, the building had numerous roof leaks, causing water to drip from the lights during heavy rain. These conditions have persisted for months, and Trina has left the facility empty, allowing the stale urine smell to permeate the surrounding areas.

I believe that in order to ensure a safe environment for both the public and any animals housed in the facility, a complete renovation is essential. This should include the removal of the window in the front room, which has developed mold.

My health deteriorated while working there, and my doctor placed me on medical leave from March 2023 to January 2024. I became increasingly aware of my condition after leaving the facility.

Thank you for allowing me to share my concerns.

Attached is a picture of a mouse in the looby.







# **Choose Video**



