

GREYHOUND PROTECTION LEAGUE

DOCUMENTED DEATHS OF SOME OF THE HALF MILLION GREYHOUNDS WHO HAVE DIED IN THE LAST TWO DECADES

“We’re talking about young healthy dogs that are being killed. When you look at them, you see all they want is a little attention and some love.”

-An Iowa veterinarian

People, September 23, 1991

“If there’s anybody to be indicted here, it’s the industry because this is what they’re doing to these animals. The misery begins the day they’re born. The misery ends when my client gets a hold of them and puts a bullet in their head.”

-Buddy Bracken, attorney for contract greyhound killer, Robert Rhodes

National Public Radio, May 31, 2002

INVESTIGATORS FOUND EVIDENCE THAT THOUSANDS OF GREYHOUNDS HAD BEEN KILLED AND BURIED ON THE PROPERTY OF ROBERT RHODES OF LILLIAN, ALABAMA. RHODES, A RACING INDUSTRY VETERAN, WAS MOST RECENTLY EMPLOYED AS A GUARD AT A NEARBY FLORIDA DOG TRACK.

Rhodes freely admitted that he shot the greyhounds for \$10 a head as a favor for Florida breeders and trainers. He first took up his trade for a South Dakota dog track 40 years ago and has been providing his “kill for hire” services for the dog racing industry ever since. Baldwin County District Attorney David Whetstone likened the conditions of the property and the mass grave to a concentration camp for dogs. A veterinarian who autopsied four of the most recently killed greyhounds determined that most were shot through the neck, mouth and elsewhere, indicating they suffered before dying.

Source: Pensacola News-Journal / Brett Norman CNN.Com / Associated Press/Mobile Register / Brendan Kirby May 22, 2002

AN EAGLE CREEK, OREGON, TRAINER WHO HAD HIS TRAINING LICENSE SUSPENDED (IN 1999) FOR ONLY TWO YEARS AFTER SIX DOGS HE WAS TRANSPORTING IN A RENTAL TRUCK DIED FROM HEAT EXPOSURE AND DEHYDRATION,

has had his farming license recently suspended. When he reapplied for a current racing license and forgot to enclose the application fee, inspectors (at taxpayer expense) visited his farm to collect the fee and discovered a dead rabbit in the driveway of his property. Inspectors suspended his license to run his greyhound farm after the trainer refused to allow inspectors to search certain areas of the property. The Oregon Racing Commission is reviewing the application to reinstate his training and farming licenses.

Source: Portland Oregonian May 2002

A COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA, DOG TRAINER WAS FINED BY THE IOWA STATE RACING COMMISSION AFTER AN INVESTIGATION INTO CRUELTY CHARGES, BUT ALLOWED TO RETURN TO WORK

despite witness testimony that the trainer repeatedly whipped and punched a dog in his care. The trainer had his state license revoked only after a further investigation revealed that he had falsified his application by failing to disclose a felony theft conviction from another state. The Iowa Racing Commission allows convicted felons to apply for and obtain a license to race dogs in their state as early as five years after their felony conviction date.

Source: Des Moines Register May 2002

HEAT STROKE KILLS FIFTY THREE RACING GREYHOUNDS IN WEST VIRGINIA KENNEL

after the air-conditioning system allegedly malfunctioned. The dogs were housed in a trailer that had been converted into a kennel. According to the county dog warden Donna DeJaro, the kennel owner could have cooled the dogs off if only he had turned on a fan and opened the windows.

Source: Greyhound Network News, Fall, 2000

TRAINER BURIES THREE DOGS AT THE PALM BEACH RACETRACK after first cutting off their ears to avoid identification. The dogs had allegedly died of dehydration after being left outside in 90 degree heat. A fourth dog later

died. The trainer, Mitch Haber, said he panicked and wanted to avoid detection. The owner of three of the dead dogs said "we all make mistakes... I'll send him some more of my dogs as soon as I get some ready."

Source: GNN, Fall, 2000, from the Palm Beach Post

GREYHOUND TRAMPLED TO DEATH AT MASSACHUSETTS TRACK. "Midget," a small female greyhound was trampled and died instantly at Raynham Greyhound Park in late June. The young dog was in her maiden (introductory) race, when she got caught between several other dogs. Injury and death are two perils that often face racing greyhounds. Small dogs like Midget are frequently placed in races with much larger dogs of the same grade. Most track deaths go unreported by the media.

Source: Sunday Enterprise / Jason Crosby / July 2, 2000

GREYHOUND ELECTROCUTED ON TRACK RAIL IN ALABAMA. "Randad", dog No. 3 in the 14th race on June 21, at the Birmingham, Alabama dog track was electrocuted when he climbed onto the lure rail, which provides a function similar to a subway's hot rail. The dog was electrocuted by 230 volts running at 30 amps, and shrieked for several seconds before he was struck by the mechanical lure that had continued around the track, according to witnesses.

Source: Birmingham News, Benjamin Niolet, June 29, 2000

NINE INJURED AND SEVERELY EMACIATED GREYHOUNDS USED FOR BREEDING PURPOSES WERE FOUND HOUSED IN AN UNHEATED KENNEL NEAR RAYNHAM-TAUNTON GREYHOUND PARK. The owner of the dogs, a former assistant greyhound trainer at the Raynham track, admitted to humane officers that 'he did not feed them all the time.' Investigating officer Christopher Charbonneau said, "It's one of the most serious cases of neglect I've seen on my twelve years on the job."

Source: Greyhound Network News, Spring, 2000

A WISCONSIN KENNEL OPERATOR SOLD MORE THAN 850 RACING GREYHOUNDS TO A CARDIAC RESEARCH LABORATORY without the permission of the dogs' owners. The situation has brought great embarrassment to state racing officials who have long marketed Wisconsin tracks as no-kill facilities. The kennel operator, who held a USDA Class B dealers license to sell animals to research facilities, also simultaneously operated both an adoption kennel in Iowa and a racing kennel in Wisconsin.

Source: Wisconsin State Journal / Andy Hall and Phil Brinkman, May 14, 2000

A TEXAS GREYHOUND FARM WAS INSPECTED BY A LOCAL SHERIFF ON A CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CHARGE.

An adoption rep and deputies from the local sheriff's office found muzzled caged dogs in questionable condition on the property, as well as as live rabbits and a feces dump pile which contained numerous dog skeletons, decaying dog bodies and four fresh dead bodies. Located close by was a tree with a large chain attached, a blood pool and a large pipe with dried blood on it. One greyhound with an untreated broken leg and sores all over its body was taken by a rescue group for medical attention and adoption. Miscellaneous Schedule III drugs were also confiscated from the property.

Source: Williamson County Sheriff's Department Official Incident Report (35 pages), March 14, 2000

RACER, "TUNE ME IN" BLED TO DEATH WITH FATAL INJURIES AFTER BEING HIT BY THE MECHANICAL LURE ARM at the Naples-Ft. Myers, Florida, track during an evening race on February 23, 2000. Eyewitnesses told greyhound advocates that Tune Me In appeared to be in great pain and distress as evidenced by her screams and cries which went on for some time before track personnel responded. By the time euthanasia was performed, the dog, who was in agony for over 30 minutes, was almost dead. An investigation by the Florida Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering determined that no violation of any rules or statutes had taken place. Greyhound Protection League's Florida representatives have formally questioned the gross omissions and trivialization of the horrendous incident by state racing officials, including failure to interview any of the eyewitnesses and failure to review the accident on track videotape.

Source: *Naples Daily News* / March 16, 2000, Florida Greyhound Protection Research Files

EIGHT GREYHOUNDS DIED IN THE FOURTH FIRE IN 13 YEARS AT WONDERLAND'S KENNEL COMPOUND

in Lynn, Massachusetts. This brings the death toll due to fire at the compound to more than 120. Firefighters were delayed in their efforts due to the tightly screwed caps on the private hydrant on the property. Despite public outrage after a fire at the same compound in 1992 resulting in the death of 87 greyhounds, no sprinklers were ever installed.

Source: *Boston Herald* / Azell Murphy Cavaan, June 20, 1999, *The Boston Globe* / Sara Neufeld, June 20, 1999, *Daily Evening Item* / Beth Rogers, June 21, 1999

THOUSANDS OF GREYHOUNDS BECAME SICK, RESULTING IN 24 DEATHS in 1999, resulting in a quarantine of greyhound tracks nationwide. By mid-February, more than 5,000 racing greyhounds nationwide had contracted kennel

cough, a fairly common disease in racing kennels that is easily preventable by an inexpensive, readily available vaccine. A condition later identified as Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome was the cause of death of at least 24 greyhounds in Florida, Kansas, New Hampshire and Wisconsin. Many of the afflicted dogs appeared relatively healthy only hours before death. Symptoms of the virus were extremely high temperatures and hemorrhaging nasally, rectally and from the urinary tract. Greyhound Protection League Director Susan Netboy said: "The stress of racing the dogs when they are ill is what makes this otherwise benign kennel cough a killer."

Source: *The St. Petersburg Times*, *The Tampa Tribune*, *The Orlando Sentinel*, Multiple news reports January 9, 1999 - August 4, 1999

MULTIPLE GREYHOUND DEATHS OCCURRED AT AN UNLICENSED KENNEL in Marana, Arizona. Within a period of a few months three stud dogs died from unidentified causes, as well as five puppies during birth when their "extremely thin" mother apparently suffered a stroke while whelping. Arizona Department of Racing cited the kennel for underweight dogs, whelping trailer dirty and full of flies, insufficient shade, excess weed and debris, no lighting and no vaccination records.

Source: Arizona Department of Racing Investigation Report, August 4, 1999

SEVENTEEN GREYHOUNDS WERE EUTHANIZED IN VIOLATION OF ARIZONA'S RACING CODE which mandates that "every effort" shall be made to adopt out greyhounds who are no longer raced or bred. Kennel owner Johnny Lloyd Rippetoe claimed he brought seventeen greyhounds to Pima County Animal Control because the adoption groups didn't take the dogs off his hands fast enough, and he couldn't afford to feed the dogs while they were awaiting adoption.

Source: *The Arizona Daily Star* / Carol Ann Alaimo, September 11, 1999

SIX GREYHOUNDS DIED AFTER BEING TRANSPORTED FROM OREGON TO FLORIDA IN 95 DEGREE HEAT IN AN OLD ALUMINUM DOG TRAILER TOWED BY A RENTAL TRUCK WHICH ALSO CONTAINED GREYHOUNDS, a 3,000 mile journey. Rental truck companies forbid the transport of live animals in their rental vehicles, however both the Animal Control Division of Oregon and the Oregon Racing Commission determined it was suitable transport for the dogs. Only after the dogs suffered and died did the Oregon Racing Commission sanction the kennel owner/trainer.

Source: Animal Control Division (Department of Environmental Services) Investigative Report, October 13, 1999, Fox 35 News

A TRUCK HAULING GREYHOUNDS OVERTURNED WHEN THE 19-YEAR OLD DRIVER FELL ASLEEP after driving virtually non-stop from New Hampshire to Georgia. No greyhounds were injured. The dogs were from the more than 500 greyhounds left behind by owners at the Lakes Region Track in New Hampshire every year at the end of the live racing season.

Source: WAGA-TV Atlanta, November 1, 1999, Gwinnett County Police Report, November 3, 1999

AN ABANDONED GREYHOUND AND HER FIVE PUPPIES WERE DISCOVERED near the Saugus, Massachusetts, town line.

Source: Daily Evening Item / David Liscio, November 10, 1999

42 ABUSED GREYHOUNDS WERE SEIZED IN EAST AUSTIN, TEXAS. The dogs were being kept in filthy, makeshift cages, all were flea and tick infested and some had deep pressure sores. One of the dogs was so flea-bitten, its neck resembled "raw hamburger."

Source: *Austin-American Statesman* / Mike Kelley, Rebecca Thatcher, April 11, 1998

111 GREYHOUNDS WERE DONATED TO KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY FOR RESEARCH between January 1996 and May 1998. 52 adults and 57 puppies were euthanized and two adults were adopted out. In ten instances, females were donated with their nursing puppies. A majority of the dogs were donated by members of the National Greyhound Association ("NGA"). Kansas is home to the NGA and the Greyhound Hall of Fame.

Source: Kansas State University Canine Acquisition Records

254 RACING DOGS FROM ALABAMA WERE DONATED FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH BY KENNEL PERSONNEL BETWEEN JANUARY 1996 AND MARCH 1998, many without the consent of their legal owners. Of the 254 greyhounds donated, seven were released, 20 remained at the school and the rest were euthanized. Larry Swango, DVM, Executive Director of Auburn University's College of Veterinary Medicine Animal Resources Program said it appeared that the school had been "duped" by kennel personnel looking for a way to dispose of dogs.

Source: *The Birmingham News* / Michael Sznajderman, July 29, 1998, *Montgomery Advertiser* / Alvin Benn, July 30, 1998

FOUR GREYHOUNDS WERE HIT BY A TRUCK AND KILLED WHEN they escaped from their kennel in Palm Beach, Florida. Theresa Hume, spokesperson for the Palm Beach Kennel Club, said "the safe barriers did not work today."

Source: WPTV Channel 5 News Transcript, October 7, 1998

200 ABANDONED GREYHOUNDS WERE RESCUED FROM GREENETRACK in Alabama when the management abruptly ended the live racing season. The rescue, estimated to cost approximately \$30,000, was accomplished through the cooperation and financial assistance of a number of animal welfare and adoption organizations and the track management. There was no financial support from the official industry organization, the National Greyhound Association, or the industry organization formed to promote greyhound adoption and welfare, The American Greyhound Council.

Source: *Indianapolis Star* / John Mason, Marcella Fleming, December 12, 1998, *PR Newswire*, December 11, 1998

595 RACING GREYHOUNDS WERE DONATED TO IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY between February 1994 and April 1999. 502 of the dogs were donated by members of the National Greyhound Association.

Source: Iowa State University Canine Acquisition Records

THIRTEEN MALNOURISHED AND ABUSED GREYHOUNDS WERE RESCUED from a backyard in Ft. Worth, Texas. Two dead greyhound puppies were also found on the scene and three of the rescued greyhounds died shortly after being rescued. A greyhound rescue group representative called them "walking skeletons with fur."

Source: *Ft. Worth Star Telegram*, June 6, 1999, WFAA News Channel 8, Angela Davis, June 7, 1999

TWO GREYHOUNDS DIED FROM THE HEAT during a cross country rescue haul. The drivers were using a makeshift aluminum trailer to transport dogs from Florida to a Philadelphia adoption program when they got lost and encountered gridlock traffic near Washington, D.C. in a 97 degree heatwave.

Source: *The (Howard County) Sun* / Nancy Youssef, June 9, 1999, Maryland State Police News Release, June 8, 1999

MORE THAN 2,600 GREYHOUNDS WERE DONATED FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH TO COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY BY COLORADO BREEDERS AND TRAINERS FROM JANUARY 1995 TO MARCH 1998, according to public records. Approximately one-third of the dogs were used in terminal teaching labs where they were killed after use; the remainder were "excess" and were euthanized within 24 hours of arrival at the facility. Approximately 80% of the donated greyhounds were three years old or younger. In a news story exposing the flow of excess greyhounds into labs at CSU, Denver KGMH-TV Channel 7 (November 1993) aired footage of the bloodied and mutilated remains of greyhounds and the unsanitary holding pens the greyhounds were kept in until they were killed.

Source: *Rocky Mountain News* / Dan Luzadder, June 7, 1998

FOUR GREYHOUNDS DIED AND ANOTHER 48 WERE RESCUED May 29, 1998 after a fire broke out at the kennel compound for the Palm Beach Kennel Club in Palm Beach, Florida. Welders were repairing the air-conditioning system when a spark ignited a duct filled with dust and dog hair. One dog was dead at the scene; three others were taken to vet clinic where they later died. Approximately 1,000 dogs are housed at the facility.

Source: *Sun Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)* / Larry Barsezewski, Sarah Lundy, May 29, 1998, *The Palm Beach Post* / Tim Pallesen, May 30, 1998

45 GREYHOUND BODIES, INCLUDING 30 PUPPIES, WERE DISCOVERED April 23 at a utility sub-station in O'Fallon, Missouri, just outside of St. Louis. Police investigating the case said the dogs were dumped in three areas of the property on three separate occasions in the last five months. The carcasses were in various stages of decomposition. The ears of nine adult dogs were crudely cut off, apparently to hide identifying tattoo marks that allow a greyhound to be traced back to its owner. The bodies of three rabbits and one cat were also discovered at the site. Such animals are known to be used to entice greyhounds to run faster in a practice called live lure training.

Source: *St. Charles Post-Dispatch* / Michelle Munz, April 25, 1998, *USA Today* / Tamara Lush, May 5, 1998

A TWO YEAR OLD GREYHOUND OWNED BY A FORMER KENNEL EMPLOYEE WORKING AT TUCSON GREYHOUND PARK DIED OF NEGLECT IN JANUARY AFTER IT WAS ABANDONED IN A TRAILER PARK. An animal control officer responding to a call discovered the male greyhound lying on the ground in extremely emaciated condition. The dog had died recently. The owner, Stephanie Seitsinger, had apparently left the dog outside her mother's trailer and moved away. Seitsinger and her boyfriend, both licensed to work as coolouts at the Tucson track, were later found responsible for the neglect and ultimate death of the dog.

Source: *Sun Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)* / Larry Barsezewski, Sarah Lundy, May 29, 1998, *The Palm Beach Post* / Tim Pallesen, May 30, 1998

14 UNDERWEIGHT AND FLEA-INFESTED GREYHOUNDS WERE BROUGHT TO THE THOMASVILLE HUMANE SOCIETY ANIMAL SHELTER in Georgia on September 3 by a kennel operator from the Jefferson County Kennel Club,

an end-of-the-line track in northwestern Florida. The small shelter was unprepared for the sudden influx of so many dogs. The same operator left another seven greyhounds with Tallahassee Animal Services and another three dogs at the track. Through the response of emergency efforts by Florida greyhound adoption groups, most of the dogs were saved. Two of the three dogs left at the track had already been killed.

Source: *Times-Enterprise* / Denise T. Ward, September 5, 1997

35 GREYHOUNDS, INCLUDING 25 PUPPIES, WERE CONFISCATED FROM A DILAPIDATED BREEDING FARM IN WEST VIRGINIA in September. According to Priscilla Oelschlanger, Director of Marshall County Animal Control, the dogs were found covered with flies and infested with parasites; seventeen of the dogs had to be euthanized. The dogs were being fed roadkill by the owner, who no longer had money to care for the animals. "They [breeders] get in over their heads and things like this happen, and as long as people go to the tracks, it's going to continue," she commented. The surviving dogs were sent to an adoption group in Michigan.

Source: *Sun Sentinel (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)* / Larry Barsezewski, Sarah Lundy, May 29, 1998, *The Palm Beach Post* / Tim Pallesen, May 30, 1998

A WEAKENED GREYHOUND SUFFERING FROM EXTREME MUSCLE ATROPHY WAS RESCUED AFTER BEING CONFINED IN A SMALL CRATE WHERE HE COULD BARELY STAND OR TURN. The dog was kept alive for breeding purposes, according to adoption coordinator Lenka Perron of Michigan Retired Greyhounds As Pets. "He doesn't have much longer," said Perron "but he deserves to have a better life for the little time he has left."

Source: *Times-Enterprise* / Denise T. Ward, September 5, 1997

A MALNOURISHED GREYHOUND AND HER PUPPIES WERE FOUND AT A BREEDING FARM OUTSIDE THE CITY OF PHOENIX owned by Ansel Styles Jr., also employed as the announcer at Phoenix Greyhound Park. Styles' breeding license was revoked after the Arizona Department of Racing found the puppies and other dogs amidst inadequate conditions, including empty water bowls, overflowing waste buckets and excessive parasite infestation.

Source: *Times-Enterprise* / Denise T. Ward, September 5, 1997

EIGHT GREYHOUNDS RACING AT APACHE GREYHOUND PARK WERE DIAGNOSED WITH CANINE DISTEMPER AND WERE EUTHANIZED FEBRUARY 21. The dogs had been leased to a kennel with a booking at Apache by owner Robert Lee Wooten, who was later fined for failure to vaccinate his greyhounds against common canine diseases. A follow-up inspection of Wooten's facility by the Arizona Department of Racing (ADOR) found that seven out of eight puppies from a recent litter had died and that another ten dogs had been euthanized a week earlier.

Source: ADOR Investigative Reports-1998, *Greyhound Network News*, Fall 1997

APPROXIMATELY 40 GREYHOUNDS FROM THE GREENETRACK, ALABAMA DOG TRACK WERE ILLEGALLY DONATED FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH BY A KENNEL OPERATOR AND A TRACK EMPLOYEE. The dogs were provided to Mississippi State University without the knowledge or permission of their legal owners.

Source: *NE Mississippi Daily Journal* / M.G. Morris, February 8, 1997, Legal Records

NINE EMACIATED GREYHOUNDS APPARENTLY DEPRIVED OF FOOD AND BEDDING WERE BROUGHT TO A LOCAL VETERINARY OFFICE by rescue workers. One of the animals was almost unconscious and near death. The dogs had been in the care of a trainer at Connecticut's Plainfield Greyhound Park. The greyhounds were covered with sores, fleas and ticks and several were 20-25 pounds underweight. "They were all basically starving," said Dr. John Robb, the vet caring for them. Racing officials and track management at first insisted that the dogs could not have come from the Plainfield facility, but later admitted that they had. At least two of the dogs had raced recently.

Source: *Associated Press*, January 12, 1997, *The Hartford Courant* / Lyn Bixby, January 30, 1997

APPROXIMATELY 600-800 GREYHOUNDS FROM THE PENSACOLA FLORIDA TRACK ARE DISPOSED OF EACH YEAR BY A LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER. Black bags filled with the dead dogs are picked up at local veterinary offices and dumped in the county landfill. Commenting on the situation one local veterinarian said, "I do this [euthanize healthy greyhounds] because it's the best way to deal with a horrible situation. It's not wonderful what I do, but as long as greyhound racing is legal, we need to be sure that when these animals are disposed of, it's done in the most compassionate way possible... I'm not going to stand on the sidelines because probably the only way things will change is if greyhound racing becomes a thing of the past."

Source: *Pensacola News Journal* / Troy Moon, November 24, 1996

HUNDREDS OF DEAD GREYHOUNDS REPORTEDLY BURIED IN THE 1970'S ACROSS FROM THE SEABROOK, NEW HAMPSHIRE DOG TRACK WERE SPECULATED TO BE THE CAUSE OF E. COLI BACTERIAL

CONTAMINATION RECENTLY DISCOVERED IN THE TOWN'S WATER SUPPLY. Two wells near the track were found to be the cause of the contamination. One resident claimed 1,000 greyhounds were buried at the site in the 1970's. Water Superintendent Warner Knowles questioned that figure but said he had no firm numbers. Both wells are now permanently closed.

Source: *The Hampton Union* / Susan Morse, September 13, 1996, WBZ-TV, September 11, 1996

TEN STARVING GREYHOUNDS WERE RESCUED FROM THE PROPERTY OF A TEXAS MAN WHO CLAIMED TO BE STARTING A DOG FARM. County investigator Wilfred Simon said, "This is the worst case I've ever seen. There's feces everywhere. The dogs are starving." The previous month officials found the dogs in the backyard of the property feeding on the carcasses of two dead greyhounds.

Source: *Galveston Daily News* / Wes Swift, August 7, 1996

60 GREYHOUNDS FROM A FLORIDA RACE TRACK WERE FOUND ABANDONED IN EAST TEXAS. Sixteen dogs were found along a roadside unable to walk and grossly underweight. Two dogs were found dead nearby and several others were rumored to be dead on private property, according to a local sheriff. The dogs had been transported from Monticello, Florida in a small dog truck in which 3-4 dogs were reportedly crowded into single kennel compartments, forcing most of the dogs to stand for the estimated 1,000 mile trip to Texas. Later, another 32 greyhounds from the same dog haul were found at the property of an individual in an adjacent county who had died shortly after purchasing them for match racing. Some were severely sick and injured. The dogs were later transferred to adoption groups.

Source: *The Hampton Union* / Susan Morse, September 13, 1996, WBZ-TV, September 11, 1996

THE BODIES OF APPROXIMATELY SIXTEEN GREYHOUNDS WERE FOUND OUTSIDE A RURAL FLORIDA SLAUGHTERHOUSE by an investigative team of a local television station acting on a tip. The slaughterhouse company, Skip Lea, processes dead animals into food for dogs, alligators and panthers. Skip Lea also supplies meat to many greyhound tracks and dog farms. When officials arrived the following morning, the evidence [the bodies] had been destroyed.

Source: *WFLA-TV (Tampa)* / Transcripts, June 18, 1996, *The Tampa Tribune* / Deborah Van Pelt, June 20, 1996, *St. Petersburg Times*, June 21, 1996

"HE'S MY DENNY," A TWO YEAR OLD MALE GREYHOUND RACING AT THE DAYTONA BEACH KENNEL CLUB DIED ON JANUARY 28, 1996 FROM UNTREATED, GANGRENOUS WOUNDS SUSTAINED IN A DOG FIGHT FIVE DAYS EARLIER. The dog was discovered when nearby greyhound adoption volunteers heard him whimpering in his crate. The dog's trainer and caregiver was arrested on a charge of felony animal cruelty. A kennel assistant was arrested on a misdemeanor animal abandonment charge.

Source: *Daytona Beach News Journal* / Joseph Ditzler, February 8, 1996

SEVEN GREYHOUNDS WERE SOLD BY A NEW HAMPSHIRE TRAINER TO A CANADIAN WHO INTENDED TO CROSS BREED THEM WITH HUSKIES TO MAKE FASTER SLED DOGS. After numerous rescue attempts, officials finally rescued the dogs from an unheated shed in freezing temperatures. The dogs were housed two to a crate.

Source: *The Concord Monitor* / Ann Marie Timmons, January 11, 1996

DESPITE WIDELY REPORTED ATROCITIES IN 1993 AT THE COEUR D'ALENE DOG TRACK IN IDAHO, INCLUDING ELECTROCUTION OF UNWANTED DOGS, WIDESPREAD ABUSE CONTINUED INTO 1995, ACCORDING TO SEVERAL TRAINERS. One trainer was alleged to have electrocuted several dogs in 1992 but not targeted for investigation by the Idaho Department of Law Enforcement until May 1995. Stating common place abuse and inhumane kennel conditions, five trainers reported various cases in which dogs were shot, beaten and had their throats slashed. One claimed to have witnessed another trainer beat six puppies to death with a claw hammer. Several trainers admitted to drugging their dogs or overworking the animals to alter the outcome of races. One trainer described electrocution of dogs using the "Tijuana hot plate treatment," so called because in Mexico, "they used to electrocute the dogs." Another trainer who saw the device used to kill a dog at the track's kennel compound described how clips were attached to either end of the dog's body. When the switch was flipped, the animal reportedly screamed for twenty seconds. Bob Lee, general manager of the track, admitted that electrocution had been used by other tracks in the past, but denied its use at his facility. Both the Idaho Racing Commission and the National Greyhound Association had reportedly been contacted repeatedly about abusive situations at the kennel compound.

Source: *The Spokesman-Review* / J. Tod Foster, September 17, 1995

TWENTY GREYHOUNDS DIED OF HEAT STROKE at the Jacksonville Kennel Club in Florida. The temperature inside the kennel soared when the air conditioning unit broke down and the backup sensor failed. The sensor was improperly set at 98 degrees.

Source: *The Florida Times-Union* / Dana Treen, May 10, 1995

51 GREYHOUNDS DIED OF EXTREME HEAT EXPOSURE near Lubbock, Texas, when the air conditioner for the training room in which they were located stopped working. According to local law enforcement officials, three breaker switches for the air conditioning units were discovered in the "off" position while the other breaker switches were in the "on" position.

Source: *Lubbock Avalanche Journal* / Gina Howard, August 23, 1994

65 GREYHOUNDS, MANY NEAR DEATH FROM STARVATION, WERE DISCOVERED AT A GREYHOUND BREEDING FARM in Ballinger, Texas. According to an animal control officer, the crowded kennels were filled with feces and skeletal remains of other dogs.

Source: *San Angelo Standard Times* / Andy Smith, *Fort Worth Star Telegram*, *Associated Press*, May 2, 1994

TWELVE RACING GREYHOUNDS WERE ILLEGALLY SOLD TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA without the permission of the registered owners. Greyhounds are typically owned by private investors but handled on a day-to-day basis and often disposed of by trainers and kennel owners. In 1993, at the University of Arizona lab alone, approximately one hundred and twenty-one greyhounds were killed in research.

Source: *Tucson Citizen* / Carla McClain, March 5, 1994

EIGHT GREYHOUNDS WERE LEFT UNPROTECTED IN OUTSIDE RUNS DURING FREEZING JANUARY TEMPERATURES BY AN IOWA FARMER and were eventually seized by county authorities in Moscow, Iowa. The dogs had been left out during periods when the wind chill factors measured minus twenty five degrees.

Source: *Cedar Rapids Gazette* / January 1994

OVER 400 FORMER AMERICAN RACING GREYHOUNDS, INCLUDING MANY ORIGINALLY FROM NEW ENGLAND AND FLORIDA, WERE FOUND ABANDONED AND STARVING IN THEIR CRATES AT A BANKRUPT RACETRACK ON MARGARITA ISLAND, VENEZUELA. Humane officials discovered sixty-one dogs already dead and later euthanized fifteen others. According to one humane official, the greyhounds were dying at a rate of five a day.

Source: *Boston Globe* / Robin Romano, December 31, 1993

EIGHT MALNOURISHED GREYHOUNDS WERE SEIZED BY ANIMAL CONTROL FORCES in Dumas, Texas. The courts charged the dogs' keeper with cruelty and removed the dogs from the facility.

Source: *The Amarillo Globe* / December 1993

180 GREYHOUNDS WERE INJURED IN A THREE MONTH PERIOD at Wisconsin's Dairyland track in 1993. Many of the dogs experienced career-ending injuries including broken legs, hips, shoulders and hocks.

Source: *The Milwaukee Sentinel* / Steven Walters, September 1993

FOUR RACING GREYHOUNDS DIED IN TRANSIT APPARENTLY FROM DEHYDRATION OR HEAT STRESS in a hauling vehicle travelling through the Arizona desert from Colorado.

Source: *Tucson Citizen* / Carla McClain, August 14, 1993

THREE TIGHTLY MUZZLED GREYHOUNDS WERE FOUND ABANDONED AT A MARINA NORTH OF ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA.

Source: *St. Petersburg Times* / Carol Clancy, July 25, 1993

37 GREYHOUNDS WERE DISCOVERED DEAD AND ANOTHER 141 STARVING at a greyhound farm in Cherry Lake, Florida.

Source: *St. Petersburg Times* / Brian Landman, July 17, 1993

TEN SEVERELY EMACIATED GREYHOUNDS WERE FOUND NEAR DEATH, ABANDONED IN A PADLOCKED KENNEL outside Phoenix. One dog was, in the words of one humane officer, "the worst I've ever seen that was still alive."

Source: *The Arizona Republic*, February 27, 1993

28 GREYHOUNDS TOO SLOW TO RACE COMPETITIVELY IN THE UNITED STATES WERE SOLD TO A BRAZILIAN BUSINESSMAN TO INTRODUCE DOG RACING IN BRAZIL. The dogs, several of which had obvious injuries, were running exhibition races outside shopping malls in several cities.

Source: *Boston Globe* / Larry Tye, Rick Miller, November 10, 1992

RACER "C.G. DUDE" HAD A HEAVY GAUGE WIRE INSERTED INTO THE SHEATH OF HIS PENIS WITHOUT ANESTHETIC by trainer John Duncan at a track in Raynham, Massachusetts, supposedly to keep the dog from sexual arousal that might alter his racing performance. Duncan reportedly performed this procedure regularly on male dogs in his care.

Source: *Boston Globe* / Larry Tye, Robin Romano, November 8, 1992

TWELVE UNDERWEIGHT AND MALNOURISHED GREYHOUNDS FROM A VERMONT TRACK WERE BROUGHT BY THEIR TRAINER TO BE EUTHANIZED AT A LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER. Multiple wounds on the dogs' bodies indicated excessive caging; their fur was reportedly covered with feces, dirt and pus. All had been housed within kennel facilities at Vermont's Green Mountain racetrack under the care of a veterinarian appointed by the state.

Source: *The Burlington Free Press* / Sam Hemingway, December 13, 1992

FIVE EXTREMELY EMACIATED GREYHOUNDS FOUND ON URINE-COVERED BEDDING IN DIRTY PENS WITH LITTLE OR NO VENTILATION were among the seven greyhounds seized by Pima Animal Control officers in Tucson. The animals were suffering from excessive sores caused by insufficient bedding. They were in the care of an expelled NGA member.

Source: *Arizona Daily Star* / Joe Salkowski, June 10, 1992

175 GREYHOUNDS WERE TO BE SHIPPED FROM CANYON CITY, COLORADO, TO HONG KONG TO RACE IN MACAU, ACCORDING TO A 1992 ARTICLE. In February of 1994, English greyhound trainer Colin Bastafield described his experience working in Macau to a British reporter: "The dogs there are literally raced to the death and rarely last more than six months," he noted. According to Bastafield, 40 dogs per month are regularly sent from Britain to Hong Kong on a twenty six hour journey in cramped crates. Four dogs per trip typically are dead on arrival.

Source: *Jet Cargo News*, March 1992, *The People*, February 16, 1994

THE DECOMPOSING BODIES OF 143 GREYHOUNDS SHOT IN THE HEAD WERE DISCOVERED BY FARM WORKERS IN AN ABANDONED FRUIT GROVE outside Phoenix. As in many states, the shooting of dogs in one's possession is not illegal in Arizona.

Source: *The Arizona Republic* / Brent Whiting, February 28, 1992

87 GREYHOUNDS BURNED TO DEATH IN A FIRE AT A WOODEN KENNEL COMPOUND in Lynn, Massachusetts, when flames ignited the shredded paper lining their cages. The independently-owned compound houses an estimated 1,000 dogs racing at Massachusetts' Wonderland racetrack. The state has no restrictions in its racing rules and regulations regarding housing and general treatment of the dogs.

Source: *Boston Globe* / Brian McGrory, February 14, 1992

200 FORMER AMERICAN RACING GREYHOUNDS, AWAITING SHIPMENT TO RACE IN VENEZUELA, WERE FOUND STARVING IN THEIR OWN WASTE at a greyhound farm in Summerfield, Florida. Humane officials also found recently killed dogs, including puppies.

Source: *The Ocala Banner*, November, 1991, *National Geographic Explorer* (TNT) January 1993

EIGHT GREYHOUNDS WERE FOUND SHOT TO DEATH IN A LEMON GROVE outside Chandler, Arizona. The dogs' left ears had been cut off to remove identifying tattoo numbers.

Source: *Chandler Tribune* / September 19, 1991

GREYHOUNDS WERE DISCOVERED IN DIFFERENT STAGES OF DEHYDRATION AND MALNUTRITION IN UNSANITARY KENNELS AT THE KEY WEST, FLORIDA, TRACK COMPOUND in February 1991. Despite frequent warnings, conditions at the track included dirty, foul smelling pens, large trucks of feces left for days and excessive flea and tick infestations.

Source: *Miami Herald*, February 27, 1991

RANCID MEAT INFESTED WITH FLIES AND MAGGOTS was discovered at Florida's Key West dog track on November 28, 1990. Inspectors reported sick dogs, many of whom were missing races because of having ingested the bad meat.

Source: *Miami Herald* / Dan Keating, March 3, 1991

38 GREYHOUNDS SHIPPED FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE WERE DISCOVERED IN THE KEY WEST TRACK COMPOUND LAYING IN THEIR OWN FECES AND VOMIT IN BARE WOODEN CRATES on October 16, 1990.

Their trainer had not arrived. The dogs were grossly underweight.

Source: *Miami Herald*, February 27, 1991

TWO FEMALE GREYHOUNDS WERE DISCOVERED IN A DUMPSTER AT A GREYHOUND KENNEL IN PHOENIX, ONE BLUDGEONED WITH AN OBJECT DESCRIBED AS A CLAW HAMMER. Both dogs were 50% underweight and close to death. Inside the kennel, one greyhound was found dead and approximately 50 others were found in poor condition.

Source: *The Arizona Republic*, September 30, 1990

101 SICK, SKELETAL GREYHOUNDS WERE CARRIED OUT OF A GREYHOUND KENNEL in Tucson. Thirty-six of the dogs could not be kept alive.

Source: *Tucson Citizen* / Carla McClain, July 12, 1990

THE BODIES OF 35 GREYHOUNDS WERE FOUND THREE WEEKS AFTER THE DOGS HAD DIED OF THIRST AND STARVATION at a Yuma training farm. Some dogs were locked into kennels; others were found in a fenced in area in Tucson.

Source: *The Sun* / Loren Listiak, June 27, 1990

TWO DEAD GREYHOUNDS AND 23 OTHERS LEFT STARVING IN SMALL COMPARTMENTS were discovered at a greyhound kennel near Ocala, Florida, in 1989. The emaciated animals were covered in fleas and ticks.

Source: *The Arizona Republic*, September 30, 1990

AN ENTIRE KENNEL OF STARVED, DEHYDRATED GREYHOUNDS WAS DISCOVERED WITHIN THE YUMA TRACK COMPOUND. Some dogs weighed less than 20 pounds.

Source: Court Affidavit on file with the Greyhound Protection League, Yuma, Arizona, 1989

83 STARVING AND DISEASED GREYHOUNDS WERE FOUND at a greyhound kennel in Dowling Park, Florida.

The dogs were in such poor condition, that they were soon euthanized. "They were just skeletons that were breathing," said one HSUS official.

Source: *The Ledger* / *Associated Press*, August 18, 1989

TWO ARIZONA DOG DEALERS FRAUDULENTLY SOLD AT LEAST 600 GREYHOUNDS TO SEVERAL RESEARCH FACILITIES between 1988 and 1989, according to USDA records. Twenty greyhounds were slated for an eight-week bone breaking experiment at the Letterman Army Insitute at the Presidio, but were later released after public outcry.

Source: *PCRM Update* / July / August 1990

SIXTEEN DEAD GREYHOUNDS WERE DISCOVERED ADMIDST SPOILED MEAT AND HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE at the Granite Landfill near Athol, Idaho. "It's always been accepted in the business that dogs that cannot win and cannot be adopted must be put down. It's just something that we do as an industry," said Bob Lee, general manager of the Coeur D'Alene greyhound track. "We try to play it down because it is unpleasant, but it happens."

Source: *The Spokesman Review* / Kelly McBride, October 13, 1989

23 GREYHOUNDS WERE EUTHANIZED IN A SINGLE DAY AT THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY SHELTER IN NORTHWEST FLORIDA, WHICH REPORTEDLY RECEIVED 25 OR MORE GREYHOUNDS TO BE KILLED MONTHLY DURING THE RACING SEASON. The volume of greyhounds received was causing the facility to run a new \$40,000 incinerator almost day and night.

"It's pretty common with dogs that don't run," commented a local veterinarian. "There are a lot that are killed; it's strictly a business."

Source: *Pensacola News-Journal* / Cindy West, September 9, 1987

141 GREYHOUNDS WERE POISONED WITH A PESTICIDE USED TO KILL FLEAS AND TICKS THAT WAS MIXED INTO THEIR FOOD in 1986.

Source: *The Arizona Republic* / Brent Whiting, February 28, 1992

IN 1983, CITY WORKERS AT A KEY WEST LANDFILL WITNESSED GREYHOUND TRAINER MILTON BLACKWELL UNLOAD SIX GREYHOUNDS FROM A TRUCK LOAD OF DOGS AND SHOOT EACH DOG IN THE HEAD WITH A .22 CALIBER PISTOL. Blackwell was convicted of firing a gun, but acquitted of a cruelty to animals charge.

Source: *Miami Herald Tropic Magazine* / Gary Karasik, October 21, 1990

IN A COURT DEPOSITION ATTENDED BY THE STATE FOR THE 1983 KEY WEST CASE INVOLVING MILTON BLACKWELL, VETERINARIAN DR. WILLIAM DEANS TESTIFIED AS TO THE MANY THOUSANDS OF GREYHOUNDS DESTROYED ANNUALLY and stated that in 25 years he had personally euthanized approximately 10,000 greyhounds.

Source: Florida Court Records 1990

The cases above are those documented by media sources or legal documents since the 1980's. The Greyhound Protection League began actively tracking such incidents in 1989. Many more incidents have occurred, but have not been reported in the press. According to industry insiders, press reported cases of abuse and destruction are only the tip of the iceberg.

PRIOR TO THE INTRODUCTION OF GREYHOUND ADOPTION EFFORTS IN THE LATE 1980's BY CONCERNED INDIVIDUALS AROUND THE COUNTRY, GREYHOUNDS WERE ROUTINELY DESTROYED FOR DECADES. For over 70 years the greyhound racing industry routinely destroyed unwanted greyhounds by the hundreds of thousands. It is estimated that since the beginning of organized pari-mutuel dog racing in the mid 1920's, close to a million greyhounds have been killed. Industry promotion of adoption began as public pressure for accountability increased.

APPROXIMATELY 20,000 GREYHOUNDS BRED FOR DOG RACING WILL DIE AGAIN THIS YEAR. Some will be humanely euthanized by veterinarians or animal shelters; others will be sold for medical experimentation and others will simply disappear from record.

Source: Greyhound Protection League Research Files (updated May 2002) based upon industry reported figures published in the *Greyhound Review*.

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