EXCERPTS OF CAPS VIDEO FROM 2021
PLEASE NOTE * + COMMENTS BELOW

Undercover video of the retail pet stores in Pinellas telling consumers their puppies don't come from puppy mills CAPS- **Companion Animal Protection Society, founded in 1992**

Founded in 1992, (CAPS) is the only national nonprofit dedicated exclusively to protecting companion animals from cruelty in pet shops and puppy/kitten mills. CAPS addresses animal suffering through investigations, outreach, legislation, legal advocacy, consumer assistance, and rescue.

CAPS investigated the four Pinellas County, Florida pet shops selling puppies and one selling rabbits, birds, chicks, ducks, and other animals in August 2021. Subsequent to our investigation, two more puppy-selling pet shops opened. In December, county commissioners approved a moratorium on the opening of additional pet shops.

CAPS investigated 5 Pinellas county pet shops selling puppies and kittens. and their breeders

1- **Petland Largo** – owns 6 other Petlands in Florida

Employee says, "all come from the top 2% (of health standards) of USDA licensed & inspected breeders". – USDA DOES NOT rank its breeders or their health

Levi Graber, gets puppy mill puppies and then sells them to many pet shops in Florida

Claims by employees is that they are only bred 2-3x's in their lifetime & not until at least 2 yrs, old – Not true, they are bred for many years & some twice a year.

Breeders are adopted out. – [redacted], rarely does this happen, most sold at auctions or killed

Darrell Graber, one of the breeders on video states that after 6 years they are killed by either needle or possibly shot by a .22, says "much faster"

2- **Puppies St. Pete**
Employee states only get puppies from USDA licensed breeders and that puppy mills are NOT licensed USDA breeders. CAPS has investigated > 1000 USDA licensed puppy mills. ALL of the puppy mills in the video are USDA licensed. Claims USDA inspects ALL breeders yearly and can have their licenses revoked for 3 yrs, if have any violations. NOT true, according to CAPS there are 1000's of breeders with numerous violations that DO NOT have their licenses revoked.
No moms bred > 3x's in their life. 1st time after their 1st cycle at 1 ½ - 2 yrs old. Then every other year. "A USDA thing" — USDA doesn't have rules like this. USDA-licensed breeders usually breed for many years & usually at every cycle

3- **Sunshine Puppies** – claim no puppy mills, [redacted] – get many from PINNACLE Pet, a large broker that gets puppies from mills. Also get puppies from several UNLICENSED breeders

4- **All About Puppies** – claim use "family breeders" where dogs are mostly kept "In the house", only a few are in cages. Claim no "mass producers" are used. - CAPS states they use large puppy mills that breed dogs every cycle, Get puppies from Sandra Blake (admits breeds every cycle), Lorilee Thomas (runs a puppy mill with > 675 adult dogs) & several other breeders with avg of at least 100 dogs. Employee claims they have someone go visit the breeders. Denied by Sandra Blake

5- **Blue Sky Puppies** – New Pet Shop opened September 2021. CAPS reports they use breeders with at least 100 to more than 300 dogs and one breeder quoted he bred them every cycle.

6- **Animal House Pet Center** – sells rabbits, birds and critters

PETSMART IS HUGE + VERY SUCCESSFUL.
THEY DO NOT SELL DOGS, CATS NOR RABBITS
THEY HELP ADOPT!

Myriam Parham
FLORIDA VOICES FOR ANIMALS