

## **Betrayal of Trust: Area Shelters Are a ‘Gateway to Hell’ for Dogs and Cats Sold to University of Utah Laboratories**

During an eight-month undercover investigation at the University of Utah, PETA’s investigator learned that homeless dogs and cats—**bought for a few dollars from local animal shelters** through a Utah state “pound-seizure” law, which requires public animal shelters to turn over unadopted animals to laboratories that request them—were used in cruel and deadly experiments.

Here is a brief glimpse into the sad plight of some of the dogs and cats whose trust was betrayed when they were sold by local animal shelters—Davis County Animal Shelter, North Utah Valley Animal Shelter (NUVAS), and Tooele City Animal Shelter (TCAS)—to the University of Utah:

### **DOGS**

- **Remington**, a chocolate Labrador retriever, was estimated to be between 3 and 6 years old when he was impounded at NUVAS on August 10, 2009. He was wearing a black harness, and shelter notes report: “Great with other dogs. Loves to explore. Knows ‘sit.’” Even though Remington passed the shelter’s temperament test, he was sold to UU on August 28 for \$20.
- **Sage** was a brown-and-gray, short-haired German shepherd, thought to be between 6 and 8 years old. She was impounded at NUVAS on August 10, 2009. Shelter workers commented that Sage was “[v]ery sweet. Great w/ other dogs. ‘Sits’ & ‘Shakes.’ Appears housebroken. Good family dog.” On August 28, Sage was sold to UU.
- **Miley**, a 2-year-old yellow Labrador, was impounded at NUVAS on January 27, 2009. Although shelter workers wrote about Miley, “Very gentle and loving. Very smart & loyal. Loves to play,” she was sold to UU on February 13.
- **Buster**, a 6-year-old brindle boxer was surrendered by his guardian to NUVAS on December 31, 2008. Buster was playful and housebroken, but on February 13, he was sold to UU.
- **Mindy**, a 3-year-old tan Shar Pei/Labrador mix wearing a pink collar, was impounded at NUVAS on January 26, 2009. Shelter workers were taken by Mindy’s gentle personality: “She has a very tender personality. A little shy but very cuddly. She loves to rest her head in your lap while you pet her.” In spite of this, Mindy was sold to UU on February 13.
- **Bear**, a neutered brown German shepherd, 1 to 3 years of age, was surrendered by his guardian on February 2, 2009. NUVAS workers wrote about Bear, “Shy at first, but very lovable once he warms up.” He was sold to UU on February 20.

- **Allie**, a spunky 1-year-old Labrador, was surrendered by her guardian to NUVAS on February 5, 2009. Shelter workers described her this way: “Very cute temperament. Very gentle, loving & loyal.” Fifteen days later, she was sold to UU.
- **Jessie**, a black-and-white collie believed to be 3 to 6 years of age, was impounded at NUVAS on March 24, 2009. Shelter workers noticed that Jessie had been neutered. They wrote about him: “Knows ‘sit’ and ‘shake.’ Mellow. Loves people. Good w/ kids & other dogs. Excellent on leash.” One month after his arrival at NUVAS, Jessie was sold to UU.
- **Koda**, a sweet, 18-month-old Rottweiler/golden retriever mix was impounded at NUVAS on July 11, 2009. Shelter workers wrote about Koda: “Sits on command. Very loyal. Eager to please. Sweet. Great temperament.” And even though one man expressed interest in adopting her, on July 31 Koda was sold to UU.
- **Opi**, a 7-month-old black-and-white Labrador mix, was taken to NUVAS on July 13, 2009, by a caring couple who found him wandering the streets in their neighborhood in Lehi, Utah. Shelter workers wrote that Opi was “sweet, playful, [and] fun,” and the couple that had taken Opi to the shelter asked that they be called if the dog wasn’t adopted. But on July 31, Opi was sold to UU.
- **J.D.**, a 1-year-old chocolate Labrador, was surrendered to NUVAS on July 9, 2009, by his guardian who could no longer care for him. Shelter workers quickly took a shine to J.D., writing this about him: “Loves walks. Good on a leash. Good with kids. Great family dog. Good disposition.” On July 23, J.D. was sold to UU.
- **Kimber**, a 2-year-old yellow Labrador, was impounded at NUVAS on January 31, 2009, as her guardian could no longer care for her. She was bought by UU on February 13.
- **Dakota**, a black Labrador believed to be 1 to 3 years of age, was impounded at NUVAS on January 23, 2009. She was sold to UU on February 20.
- **Bear**, a black Labrador believed to be 1 to 3 years of age, was impounded at NUVAS on March 30, 2009. Bear, was described by shelter workers as being “obedient [and] sweet.” She was sold to UU on April 24.
- **Jasper**, a red merle Australian shepherd, was surrendered by his guardian to NUVAS on April 18, 2009. Described by shelter workers as “very sweet,” Jasper was sold to UU on May 1.

- **Acura**, a 13-year-old gray Weimaraner, was impounded at NUVAS on April 20, 2009. Shelter reports commented on Acura: “Good temperament. Loves walks.” She was sold to UU on May 1.
- **Johnny**, a white, short-haired German shepherd, was abandoned by his guardian at NUVAS on July 20, 2009. Although Johnny passed the shelter’s temperament test, he was sold to UU on July 31.
- **Nemo**, a black Labrador, was surrendered to NUVAS by his guardian, who could no longer care for him, on June 29, 2009. On July 23, Nemo was sold to UU.
- On July 13, 2009, a brown Labrador/Australian shepherd mix was impounded at NUVAS. Ten days later, he was sold by the shelter to UU.
- On June 19, 2009, a yellow Labrador was impounded at NUVAS. She was sold to UU on July 2.
- On March 30, 2009, a gray Weimaraner was impounded at TCAS. She was sold to UU on April 17.
- On March 17, 2009, a black Labrador mix was surrendered to TCAS by his guardian, who could no longer care for him. One month later, on April 17, the dog was sold to UU.
- A tri-color heeler was impounded at TCAS on March 25, 2009. He was sold to UU on April 17.
- A brown-and-white Labrador mix was surrendered by his guardian to TCAS on February 2, 2009. On March 6, the dog was sold to UU.
- On February 24, 2009, a white-and-tan dog was impounded at TCAS. She was sold to UU 10 days later, on March 6.
- A red brindle pit bull was impounded at TCAS on March 2, 2009. Only four days later, on March 6, she was sold to UU.
- On January 26, 2009, a black Labrador mix was surrendered by her guardian to TCAS. She was sold to UU on February 27.
- A chocolate Labrador was impounded at TCAS on February 13, 2009. He was sold to UU on February 27.

- On February 25, 2009, a black Labrador mix was surrendered by his guardian to TCAS. Just two days later, on February 27, he was sold to UU.
- A black Labrador mix was surrendered by his guardian to TCAS on January 17, 2009. He was sold to UU on February 27.

## **CATS**

- **Gracie**, a shy domestic short-haired cat, was impounded at NUVAS on April 7, 2009. On May 1, she was sold by the shelter to UU.
- A kind woman found a male Bengal cat wandering her neighborhood in Saratoga Springs, Utah. On January 22, 2009, she took the cat to NUVAS but requested that the shelter workers call her if the cat's guardian did not come forward. On February 6, NUVAS sold the cat to UU for \$15.
- On January 13, 2008, a caring woman took a short-haired Siamese male cat she had found in her neighborhood in Lehi, Utah, to NUVAS. She asked shelter workers to inform her if the cat was adopted. Even though shelter workers determined that the cat was adoptable, NUVAS sold the Siamese to UU on February 6.
- On March 31, 2009, a black-and-white domestic short-haired female cat wearing a red collar and an identification tag was impounded at NUVAS. She was sold to UU on April 24.
- A small black-and-white spayed cat was surrendered by her guardian to TCAS on February 27, 2009. She was sold to UU on April 17.
- On March 30, 2009, a small gray-and-white short-haired cat was impounded at TCAS. On April 17, she was sold to UU.