

Ethics and Compliance Employee Hotline

General Information

Caller Name: Declined

Type: Not Specified

Client Name: Louisville Metro Government

Location #: 03

DBA: ANIMAL SERVICES

Address: 3700 MANSCLICK RD

City,State,Zip: LOUISVILLE - KY

Country: USA

Phone:

Report #: 120074221

Priority: 2

Trans #: 1

Rpt Date: 08/07/2014

Time: 07:45AM

Origin: Phone Call

Summary Information

WHO: Caller, name declined, reported MARGARET BROSKO and DONALD ROBINSON.
WHAT: Fraud
WHEN: ONGOING SINCE 2/2013
WHERE: AT THE LOCATION

Incident Description

8/7/2014 7:45:00 AM - Original Call

Caller, DECLINED, reported that in 2/2013, exact date unknown, there was an injured animal "Sadie," with a broken leg. Sadie's injury required that she have surgery. Once word got out about Sadie needing surgery, outside agencies such as, the Arrow Fund raised funds for Sadie to have surgery. However, Sadie never had the surgery.

The caller explained that Director, Margaret BROSKO, and title unknown, Donald ROBINSON, made the decision to use the funds raised for Sadie for other animals in the shelter.

In the spring of 2014, Sadie died as a result of chewing her broken leg off.

On 7/22/2014, all of this information as well as other information about ongoing cruelty, abuse and/or issues at the shelter were released in a local newspaper.

The caller stated that Louisville Mayor, Greg FISCHER, is aware of the conditions and issues at the shelter.

The caller feels there should be an investigation into how the shelter continues to have so many ethical violations going on.

The caller would like for these issues to be investigated.

How does the caller know about the incident?: Heard from others

What documentation is available?: None

Will it happen within the next 24 hours?: NO

If so, when: N/A

If so, where: N/A

Fraud:

Do you know if there are plans for this to occur again within the next 24 hours? NO

If so, where?

If so, when?

Involved Parties**Reported Individuals:****Name:** DONALD ROBINSON**Title:** UNKNOWN**Name:** MARGARET BROSKO**Title:** DIRECTOR**Management Notified:** NO**Involved/Aware Parties :** YES**Name:** GREG FISCHER**Title:** MAYOR**Role:** Other**Supplemental Information****How does the caller know about hotline:** Other**Interviewer Observations:****Client Instructions**

The caller has been instructed to call back on 8/21/2014. Please take some time to review the report and submit any additional questions you may have for the caller by 8/20/2014. If you are a licensed user of the ReportLine system, please log in (<https://www.netclaim.net>) and submit your question. If you are not a licensed user of the ReportLine system, please document your question in an email and send it to: NetworkCallbacks@tnwinc.com.

Conditions:

The information contained in this report was provided by a third party source. The Network, Inc. does not verify the accuracy or the completeness of the information contained in this report, and therefore, cannot guarantee its accuracy or completeness.

you have questions, concerns or updates such as escalation and/or dissemination instructions relative to our service or this incident report please contact us at "clientcommunication@tnwinc.com."

- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
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← [The Water Company Costs You Even More \\$\\$\\$ Fischer-LMAS Scandal Still Churning Stomachs](#) →

The LMAS Official-Turned-Fischer-Staffer Scandal Gets Real: Proof Margaret Brosko & Other Metro Officials Are Corrupt & Lack Any Compassion

July 22nd, 2014 by jake · [38 Comments](#)

Want a nice roundup of some of our significant LMAS stories? You'll find a decent list of them by [clicking here](#).

Original story below.

...

In February 2013, Louisville Metro Animal Services received a young and beautiful Pitbull named Sadie. She was friendly, likable and loving but had what amounted to a dangling leg from an injury that needed to be amputated. Her owner attempted to claim her in March and received a violation notice of her injuries. When a vet notice is issued, owners are required to provide vet care within 48 hours or they wind up in court. The owner didn't bother getting her care and didn't bother showing up for court. Nothing happened. No bench warrant was issued. There was no follow-up from LMAS.

In late August, the owner finally surrendered Sadie to LMAS and she was set to be euthanized.

A big deal, sure, but not something LMAS couldn't handle and not something that is rare. But Sadie's story doesn't end like you think it should.



SADIE, UPON INTAKE

LMAS sent her to Jefferson Animal Hospital and was immediately advised to amputate the leg or put her to sleep. She was placed in foster care with an LMAS employee named Heather Adkins, who confirms everything we're revealing in a lengthy written statement. Adkins committed to keeping Sadie for six months while Margaret Brosko (then second in command at LMAS), Kim Ward (Foster Coordinator) and Alisa Oerther (Community Engagement Supervisor) worked to secure funding for

Sadie to get the medical help she needed. Brosko told Adkins that she would be going public with a PR story about Sadie in order to raise everything necessary and shine a positive light on the agency. And on October 14, 2013, Ward told Adkins that Brosko was, "going to push the story and it will probably be pretty big."

It wasn't. Because Brosko never did anything on the Sadie front.

Weeks and weeks of unanswered emails, telephone calls, desperation. Nothing. It was apparent Margaret Brosko had more important things to do than her job. So Adkins raised most of the money needed for the amputation herself. Unfortunately, she was told that it would have to be handled by LMAS and her hands were tied. By that time, Sadie was beginning to self-mutilate her leg and was forced to live in a cone. Brosko was aware of the urgency because Adkins emailed her with frequent updates, begging for assistance. The only time she ever responded was with quips like, "We're working on it." and when asked when the surgery would be performed, "SOON."

Delay after delay, stalling, excuses about missing or never ordered surgical supplies (bogus — the procedure was being done by the Adkins' own veterinarian, not LMAS), it went on and on. Heather Adkins was desperate. Margaret Brosko was eventually forced to reveal to Heather that all the money that had been raised specifically for Sadie was *used on another dog*. In fact, private citizens made donations specifically for Sadie and Brosko spent the funds elsewhere.

Here's proof:

Metro Animal Services			DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES		
3705 Manslick Road, Louisville, KY 40215					
(502) 361-1318 Administrative (502) 363-6809 Service Requests					
Receipt Date: Friday, February 21, 2014					
Receipt Number R14-004101			PID P236287		
Person Information ANIMAL HOUSE					
3516 NEWBURG RD					
LOUISVILLE KY 40218					
Received From ANIMAL HOUSE		Check No.	Budget: (502) 573-7367		
Item	Animal ID	Reference No.	Price	Each	Amount
DONATION SPOT	AS16506	SADIE'S SURC	\$200.00	1	\$200.00
Total Fees Due					\$200.00
Payments					
Cash					\$200.00
Check					\$0.00
Credit Card					\$0.00
Total Payments Received					\$200.00
Thank You!					
Change					\$0.00
Balance Due					\$0.00
Animal Information					

CLICK TO ENLARGE

In total, there were 18 emails from Adkins to LMAS employees regarding Sadie's urgent medical needs. During that period she took Sadie to her own vet on her own dime for checkups and wound care. At one point, Kim Ward appears to have also attempted to get Brosko to help Sadie and told Adkins via email that the situation was "becoming an issue of neglect on our part, as far as I'm concerned." She really hit the nail on the head with that one. Neglect, abuse, misappropriation of funds. Standard Operating Procedure there.

Nothing ever happened. LMAS did nothing. Greg Fischer's staffers like Sadiqa Reynolds sat on their hands and/or whitewashed a brewing scandal.

Sadie continued to break through her cones, chewing on her paw and leg until late March — a full year after LMAS was told the leg needed to be removed — when Heather reached out to the Arrow Fund in a desperate plea for help. AF reacted and after having the dog transferred to their ownership, rushed her to Blue Pearl Veterinary Hospital for treatment. It was too late. Sadie had chewed up and swallowed so much of her leg and the accompanying bandages that she had an obstructed bowel. She was constantly vomiting and had developed pneumonia. She was euthanized to end her suffering.

A senseless death that was a direct result of Margaret Brosko's clear incompetence and indifference toward the animals in her care.

The story doesn't end there, sadly.

After a month, open records requests were filed to obtain copies of emails to/from the parties involved, for medical notes and kennel records. But LMAS and Metro Government had no intention of releasing anything related to the case. The first attempt yielded just three emails — two of which were duplicates and nothing more than a request to Jefferson Animal Hospital for their records. The second attempt turned up unrelated messages and nothing from Margaret Brosko. Unfortunately for LMAS, Metro Government and Brosko? Heather Adkins kept all of her emails and other records. So it was easy to determine LMAS/Brosko were willfully breaking the law by withholding public documents. They were called on it and denied their existence.

Want some proof that records existed? Here's one [giant PDF file](#) and [here's another](#).

Robinson, Donald

From: Gray, Catherine
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 10:08 AM
To: phil@louisvillevoice.com
Subject: Re: Record for A455353

Hi Margaret, I'm sorry to hear about
Freddy

And the dog
Joseph, Mike, Amy, and I
are all very sorry to hear

From: Jaldocor [mailto:jaldocor@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2014 04:41 PM
To: Gray, Catherine
Subject: Record for A455353

Record for A455353

Jefferson Animal Hospital & Regional Emergency Center
4504 Owen Loop
P.O. Box 19376
Louisville, KY 40259
phone 502 966 4104
fax 502 966 3504
www.jeffersonanimalhospital.com

Robinson, Donald

From: Margaret Janet L
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2014 10:14 AM
To: Bappy, Rebecca
CC: Gray, Catherine
Subject: A455353

The dog went to Jefferson yesterday for a possible broken leg and the person that found her filled out an adoption app
and you have a memo about the app. I just wanted to let you know that the dog does not have a simple broken leg, but
has nerve damage from an old injury. Jeffers is recommending amputation in the future. This may be something they
won't be able to afford.

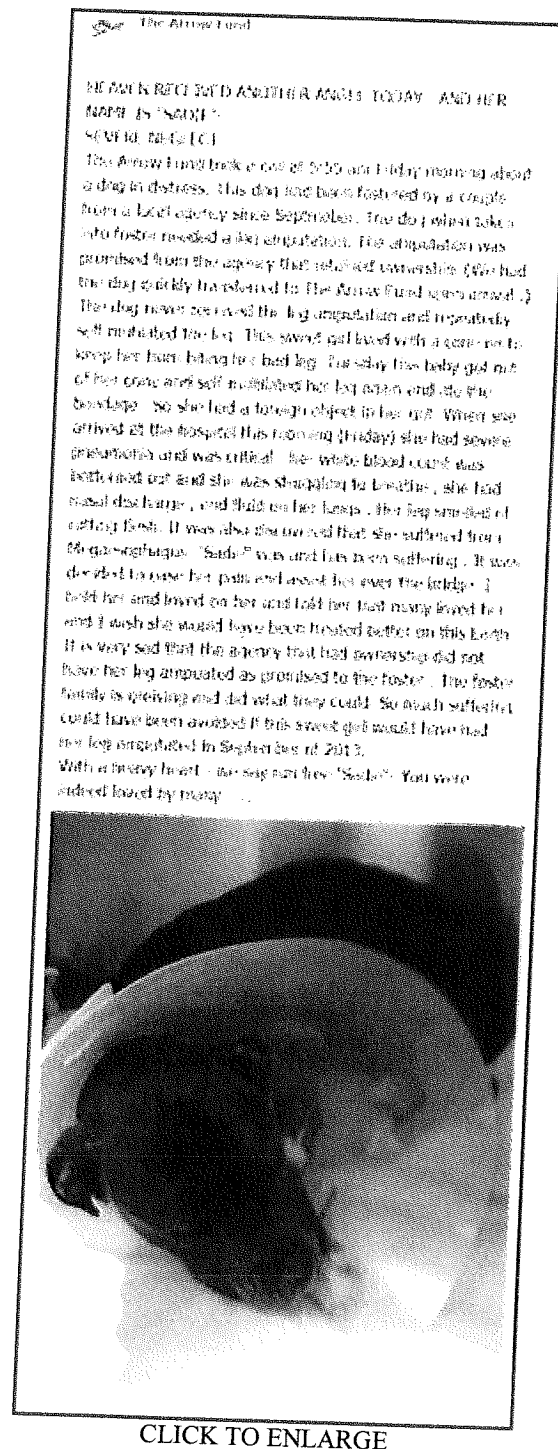
Janet

the fact (or willfully trying to cover things up) that her own neglect caused what amounts to torture/neglect and death of a dog in her care.

A month later, Robinson again called Adkins into his office to reprimand her over the open records requests LMAS was beginning to receive. He allegedly told her that she wasn't his "star employee" and would fire her for bringing negative attention and bad press to LMAS. But he wouldn't get that opportunity. Heather Adkins left LMAS a few weeks later, still heartbroken over Sadie and disgusted by the treatment she received and the health care Sadie didn't receive.

Complaints are currently being filed with the Office of the Attorney General. One regarding Brosko's withholding of emails that we have proof exist and another regarding the matter of neglect, which resulted in Sadie's death.

At the time, Arrow Fund was public about what went down:



CLICK TO ENLARGE

It wasn't a secret. Not something that can be covered up.

To make things sting a bit more for Brosko, LMAS, Greg Fischer and crew, here's the statement provided to us by Adkins:

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Heather Adkins, and I am a previous employee of Louisville Metro Animal Services. I left my position in May for many reasons, the biggest of which is a current

issue Ms. Karen Dickson is attempting to bring to light. For fear of retaliation, I didn't want to step forward. I'm no longer fearful.

Around September 2013, I took home my first and only foster dog, a beautiful gray pit bull named Sadie. She was about two years old, the sweetest, happiest dog you've ever met, with a horribly destroyed front leg. It dangled uselessly, likely from a previous traumatic accident that was never seen by a vet.

Sadie was impounded in March of 2013, and when the owner came to claim her, not only did the owner contest a spay (obviously because s/he was a breeder from the west end), s/he received a violation notice on Sadie's injury (images attached). When a vet notice is issued to an owner, they have to take the dog to the vet within 48 hours, and if they don't, they get taken to court.

That's exactly what happened with Sadie. Her owner didn't bother taking her to the vet, so s/he was given a court date. Which s/he didn't show up for.

This is the first instance in which Metro Animal Services dropped the ball. Nothing happened. A bench warrant was not issued. The owner was not tracked down to give proof Sadie had been seen. And the case was eventually dismissed by a judge.

Several months later in July, Sadie ended up back at the shelter. After a month, the owner told the shelter in no uncertain terms s/he would not be returning to get Sadie.

Sadie was immediately placed on the euthanasia list.

Rather than see perfectly happy and sweet Sadie put down for only the crime of A—being a pit bull, and B—having a bum leg, I took her home as a foster. This was around the first of September.

The next day, I emailed the foster coordinator at that time, Kim Ward, and asked about my options. I told her my husband and I were willing to raise funds for Sadie's surgery. As with all MAS fosters, the animals ARE MAS property, and as such, foster parents have little control over what they can or can not do, so I knew I needed permission to go forward.

Kim was right on board with this idea, and she let me know she'd run it by her boss, Margaret Brosko, and get back with me.

In the meantime, I told Tabitha Gray, the vet staff supervisor about Sadie's situation. I told her Sadie would be a wonderful adoption candidate because she loved other dogs, loved cats, loved people, and was an all-around sunny dog. Tabitha informed me her vet staff wouldn't do anything for Sadie because they wouldn't see a financial return on her.

Within a couple days, Kim emailed me back to say hold off on collection any money, because Margaret wanted to use Sadie as a PR tool. They'd received a donation from a citizen that was specified to be used to save a pit bull, and Sadie would be perfect for this. I agreed, because I didn't care how Sadie got the surgery, as long as she did.

A month passed with no word. I wasn't concerned at this time because Sadie was happy and healthy, and the leg didn't seem to bother her at all. I emailed Kim to ask what the status of her surgery was, and Kim let me know they were waiting on the surgery pack.

Another month passed. I emailed often and received vague answers: We're waiting for the surgery equipment. Oh, the equipment is delayed. The equipment is here, but we haven't heard from the vet who does our amputations. Still no word. Sorry for the delay. These emails were to/from several different people including Kim Ward, Margaret Brosko, and Alisa Oerther. There is even one email I remember vividly from Margaret in response to a fairly long request from me to get the surgery going: One word. Soon.

By this time, it was November, and Sadie began to chew on the paw. I guessed as it got colder outside, the leg began to ache, the way an athlete's old injury might. It wasn't serious at first; I'd just catch her nibbling at it, never hurting herself. But one morning I awoke to find she chewed through her paw, including several toenails, so I rushed her to my personal veterinarian, Doctor Stephanie Pollett in Bullitt County. Dr. Pollett cleaned her, bandaged her, and gave me the first of many cones for Sadie's neck.

At work that day, I emailed Margaret. This was around November 11th, I believe. I told her that Sadie had self-mutilated the night before, and I woke up to find her bloody paw. I said she was fine now, but the situation had hit crisis mode and we needed to get the surgery done NOW.

My husband and I were stunned by what happened next. I was informed that because they never heard from the amputation vet, that they'd had to use that pit bull donation on another dog. It had to be used "right away." So there was no money for Sadie. They couldn't do anything for us.

Sadie broke through two e-collars and got to her leg twice, each time consisting of me waking up to her bleeding and rushing her to my personal vet and spending out of pocket to get her cleaned and bandaged, plus purchasing another e-collar.

For most of the fall, I was very communicative with Dr. Pollett about how the shelter had promised Sadie help and hadn't done anything for her yet. Dr. Pollett offered very early on to do the surgery for low cost—it would include a hospital stay at her own practice, all equipment, all meds, everything. So I had emailed Margaret and told her the price Dr. Pollett stated, and that I was willing to raise this money myself and take care of everything if she would just give me permission to do so.

She said she would need to get permission from the SPOT board.

At a meeting just after Sadie's death in March, Margaret stated face-to-face she had told me Dr. Pollett was more money than they had raised. This was NEVER communicated to me. How would that have been an issue, when I specifically stated I would raise the money myself if they would give me permission?

On or around December 21st, three weeks after Sadie began self-mutilating and I notified Kim and Margaret, Margaret finally sent me an email giving me permission to raise the money ourselves and let Dr. Pollett do the surgery.

Over the course of January and February, Sadie did well as we raised money for her surgery. She stopped going after her paw, and was able to be out of the e-collar for long periods of time without paying it any mind.

At work, I personally received and cashed at least three payments on behalf of Sadie. One from my best friend, Ann Hunter, in the amount of \$50. One from a family friend, Judy

Sampson, in the amount of \$10. And a third from a Facebook friend, Christine Posey. I've contacted all three to request proof of their payment. When they were entered in the shelter's Chameleon software system, they were referenced as "Sadie's surgery" and donated as a DONATION SPOT. This is only three I know of; there were definitely others.

We hit our surgery goal on a Friday. That next Monday, I woke up to find Sadie had completely chewed through her bandages and reached her paw again. We visited the vet and cleaned up, talked about setting up Sadie's surgery—I just needed to let Margaret know we were ready to do so, if SPOT was ready to write the check. Then I took her back home.

As a side note here, I recently found out that a SPOT board member stated no information was ever brought to them regarding Sadie. They had never heard of her, nor had they given permission to do the donations through them to pay for the surgery. She stated they likely would not have been a part of this situation in the first place. So whether Margaret lied to me, or this SPOT member was misinformed, I'm not sure.

Within two days, Sadie went downhill. She began to cough and be lethargic. On Wednesday, she vomited several times. On Thursday, I took her to see Dr. Pollett, who did X-rays and found Sadie had actually consumed some of the bandages this time. She then suggested I contact the Arrow Fund and ask for help.

Which I did. I sent Sadie's story to the Arrow Fund via email that same night, and then spoke by phone with Rebecca Eaves. She wanted to help, and by early the next morning, Sadie was transferred into the care of the Arrow Fund. Her condition at this point was too severe—she'd developed pneumonia from the constant vomiting, on top of the bowel obstruction, on top of the leg that needed medical attention. They opted to euthanize her.

A meeting was set between Donald, Margaret, me, and our union steward, Sherry Goodman, in which they had me tell the story of what happened in the days leading up to Sadie being transferred to Arrow Fund. After, I was written up.

I told them if Sadie had received the help she was promised in the beginning, then I would have felt comfortable coming to them for help when Sadie ingested the bandages. But they'd proven, over the course of six months, that help would not be coming from MAS. They neglected Sadie, and in return neglected me as the foster parent. That's when I turned to Arrow Fund.

A month later, Donald Robinson, assistant director, pulled me into his office where he informed me if I wasn't his "star employee," he would fire me for bringing this bad press on them. He showed me the open records request from Karen Dickson, who I only knew by name at that point, and told me "Now we have to deal with this."

I am willing to swear under oath that there are a dozen or more emails in existence that took place between myself, Kim Ward, Margaret Brosko, and Alisa Oerther. I am seeking to provide proof of three separate donations for Sadie that were not claimed in the open records request, and I am also attempting to find all the documentation I had on hand regarding these emails about Sadie, showing the numerous times I reached out to the staff and received no help in return. You can find my story to be corroborated by several LMAS employees who were by my side during the entire ordeal, though I'm sure they fear retaliation and/or termination, so at this point it's doubtful they would step forward.

This is not all that I have to say on the subject of Animal Services. It is a corrupt place, led by people who care not for the animals, but for good press. They will lie, cheat, and steal to remain in the Mayor's good graces, and they will grab every success story to the forefront, while dutifully covering up the bad, much as they are trying to do now with Sadie.

Heather Adkins

After all that, Fischer and crew promoted Brosko to work in his office and have taken great pains to cover the scandal up. They also tried to hire another abysmal director, until we revealed *her* mess publicly. His staff — government officials paid for with your tax dollars — are now attempting to retaliate because they know we're blowing the lid off the LMAS nightmare once again.

In all these eight long years of covering corruption at Metro Animal Services and within Metro Government, this takes the cake. It beats everything we've seen and our investigations have directly resulted in the firing of several directors, don't forget. It's worse than all of that. It's worse than Gilles Meloche injecting air into the hearts of animals instead of humanely euthanizing them. It's worse than throwing freshly killed animals into the city dump instead of incinerating them. It's worse than sexual harassment scandals and legal settlements. It's worse than Wayne Zelinsky and the escort service shenanigans. It's worse than Jackie Gulbe stuffing an elderly, overheated dog into a suitcase to take it to the shelter (yes, that's why she was let go — we've already proved it). It's worse than Margaret Brosko damaging someone's vehicle with an LMAS truck, which was verified by LMPD and Metro Government, only to be covered up and whitewashed.

This is the worst thing we've seen from LMAS because we finally have evidence that everyone from Greg Fischer on down are mismanaging the troubled agency while violating the law in an attempt to withhold information from the public. All in an attempt to whitewash reality and make themselves look like they're doing a stellar job. Everyone involved ought to be prosecuted, fined, fired and held responsible. It's just tough to have faith in anyone with an ability in government to do the right thing.

Will Jack Conway, who is now running for governor, step up and do the right thing? Or will this end as just another scalp in our LMAS trophy case?

Something tells us Conway won't want Jamie Comer, his eventual Republican opponent, hanging this around his neck.

Here's hoping.

 TWEET THIS :  FACEBOOK

Tags: [Bad Behavior](#) · [Dogs](#) · [Greg Fischer](#) · [Metro Government](#) · [Scandal](#)

38 responses so far ↓

- [1 Sarah Bauer](#) // Jul 22, 2014 at 1:58 pm

I am horrified by this story. Something must be done immediately to resolve the problems at MAS. There is no excuse for what happened to Sadie — NONE.

- [2 jake](#) // Jul 22, 2014 at 1:59 pm

Sadie's not even the worst case.

We've barely scratched the surface of awful.

- 3 Jennifer Fisher // Jul 22, 2014 at 2:02 pm

I am sickened but not surprised. There seems to be no way to make people care. It's heartbreaking.

- 4 jake // Jul 22, 2014 at 2:04 pm

Jennifer: This story is how to make people care.

- 5 Puppy Love // Jul 22, 2014 at 2:41 pm

I'm glad this is finally coming to light, since several people that commented on the Arrow Fund's post about Sadie were condemning the foster or the "rescue" that allowed this to happen, not realizing it was LMAS. It's astonishing that it's easier for them to do nothing and cover it up than to just do the right thing in the first place.

- 6 Cavemouse // Jul 22, 2014 at 2:59 pm

This while shocking, is not surprising. Not one of the current administration at LMAS gives a crap about animals, just padding their own resumes. Fischer had better hope he never gets hurt while Brosko is his "body person". No telling what she would do... Chris Poynter had better watch his back, she will go after his job next.

- 7 The 'ole Highlander // Jul 22, 2014 at 3:30 pm

WoW! George's boy sure is doing a wonderful job handling the 'affairs of state'!!!!!! [tongue in cheek]. Resembles that old saying "Like a rotten mackerel, he both shines and stinks at the same time."!!!!!!

- 8 step up with real change // Jul 22, 2014 at 3:56 pm

My heart breaks every time another horror story from LMAS surfaces, but there are too many and it CAN be fixed, rather easily. The community needs to step-up and pressure Fischy and crew. Yes, you Yarmuth, Browns, and others that make excuses for the guy. I get physically ill with each f*\$%en story but keep up the pressure and keep laying them out there. Hopefully, it will finally payoff and senseless deaths of innocent animals will stop. Someone should reach out to the Charter for Compassion folks and dump all this info on their desks to show they have been had and the guy is all talk. Truly sickening. No Kill folks are not off the hook, you guys need to be run out of town. Absolute failure.

- 9 Tina Tucker // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:07 pm

So sad that the people in charge of helping animals actually care so little about them. I am disgusted by this story as well as afraid to ever enlist the help of such officials to do call care for any animal. Please someone stop this cruelty to man's best friend because one day you will be judged by your actions and sent to a hell just as poor Sadie and so many others have experienced at your hands. God be with those poor helpless animals.

- 10 edye rivera // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:16 pm

They call themselves HUMAN,for the people what about the Rights to fairness & help for the animals put in their care?its Politics & Money,for THEM<this Needs to go on National TV for animal rights,Got to be a way to make all PAY for the loss of Sadie,THEY ARE GUILTY of every non humane act Possible,if a situation doesn't line their pockets, they are not interested,How do they sleep? a person with no conscious,doesn't have a problem,they need to Remember we reap what we sow,

- 11 **briansmith** // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:35 pm

As a former Louisville Metro Government employee I want to commend Heather Adkins for coming forward with her story, and in such a compelling way. The bullying and duplicity she experienced in her dealings with LMAS management is not surprising, and is not limited to one city agency. The best way for people such as myself or Ms. Adkins to fight back against the vindictive violations to our dignity, integrity and humanity at the hands of metro management is to tell the truth about the shitty things they do to us.

Heather, you should take comfort in the fact that the greatest danger you posed to your bosses was that by proving yourself to be a person of integrity you assaulted them with the threat of a good example. Shitty People feel shamed when they encounter a Real Person, and when you brought attention to their shitty behavior they bared their shitty claws and took a swipe at you. The only power they ever had over you was on their little sheets of write-up paper. You took that power away from them when you left. I understand why you chose to resign rather than deal with being thrown under the bus for doing the right thing.

- 12 **Laura** // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:38 pm

Sickening.

Calling Eric Flack!! Calling John Boel!!!

WAVE, WLKY, WHAS, WDRB.. Bueller??

Hello TV media!!! How about we take time out from the stupid youtube videos for a change and do some worthwhile reporting on this instead?

I remember you posting when Greg was elected Jake that we get what we deserve. Believe me, I regret that vote.

- 13 **jake** // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:43 pm

Haha. Eric Flack. Hahahaha. Neither he nor John Boel could be bothered to do a story that isn't hype. And if they *did* cover this, it'd be full-on plagiarism and no credit would ever be given. (Or maybe it will be, now that I'm complaining about the way teevee folks steal material 24/7)

But really – Louisville is getting what it asked for. That's a sad reality.

- 14 **Laura** // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:48 pm

Yes Flack and Boel are both a joke and the idea that any TV news would dare report on something that might make Greg mad is an even bigger joke.

Its not fair and apologies in advance but I don't personally care whether they give you the credit you deserve. I care about more people reading what I just read and something being done about it. However that comes about.

- 15 jake // Jul 22, 2014 at 5:51 pm

I'd definitely be happy to see the information spread. But they get to spew out horseshit no matter what, no consequences. I do not. This is my job and I'd like to be able to eat without some dicksack stealing my work without so much as an attribution.

Someone from WDRB would be a better fit for digging into LMAS. Despite Bill Lamb's loony anti-equality hype, he's at least hired a few great people who know how to report.

In fact, I'd probably give folks at WDRB access to my LMAS database to make their reporting easier.

- 16 Karen // Jul 22, 2014 at 6:01 pm

This is sad someone needs to get these people out! i am a voter and I promise this story will be on my mind when I vote . I am a animal lover and believe me there is a lot if them it might affect Conway if he doesn't do anything .what the hell is wrong with people that they turn a blind eye to this neglect.i pray to God none if them have pets.

- 17 Vicki B // Jul 22, 2014 at 7:03 pm

So we FLOOD the mayor's office with links to this story and demands that something be done. We call them and harass them and push until someone is put in there that isn't looking to make a quick buck, and a system is put in place to check up on these things. And we make this an election issue – we make it known that enough people care about this, and they'll cave.

- 18 jake // Jul 22, 2014 at 7:06 pm

Vicki B: I, too, live in the same dream world you live in.

Unfortunately, that's just a dream.

Pressure doesn't work at this point. That's why there's such a sense of desperation.

- 19 Researched // Jul 22, 2014 at 7:26 pm

This is revolting. Beyond words. At every level. And then to cover it up like this and write this woman up?

People like this do not need to be in government in any capacity.

This is sickening.

- 20 Sherry // Jul 22, 2014 at 7:58 pm

Someone needs to be held accountable from the Mayor down!

- 21 The 'ole Highlander // Jul 23, 2014 at 9:02 am

I suggest that SOME national animal rights group (that is respected by broad public opinion [probably not PETA]) needs to be encouraged to retain counsel in Louisville and bring litigation against the Mayor of this place USING ALL THE FACTS THAT JAKE HAS REVEALED to mandate by injunction that the Mayor take immediate action to overhaul this

entire pile of dung. Obviously, the media (other than Jake) isn't going to do anything, nor is the Mayor, nor is the councilcritter group — so all that's left is the judicial system.

- 22 still disgusted // Jul 23, 2014 at 9:11 am

I was so hoping Greg Fischer would change that awful hell-hole. Learned early on that is would stay just the same. Yes, it starts with the mayor and his awful hires. As much money as this place is allotted it should go to the innocent animals. Through no fault on their own they end up at this horrific place. MAS is corrupt, they are thieves and they have no business being at the helm of helpless animals. Karma to them all.

- 23 jake // Jul 23, 2014 at 9:38 am

Highlander: There are about a thousand stories — at least a few hundred of them pretty big — with tons of information, documents, emails, photos that can be used. Anyone with a bit of money and patience could turn this around with a lawsuit in under a year.

...

Some of the people who could have done things but sit on their hands for whatever reason...

Jim King, when he ran against Fischer, was too self-important to try to figure out LMAS. As Councilcritter president, he's still too self-important and unwilling to do the right thing. But he's okay with spreading information he knows to be bogus. Meanwhile, his wife is on the Zoo board and they have the audacity to turn a blind eye to the nightmare that is LMAS. (Yes, Debbie, I'm saying I lost all respect for you because of this. You're worse than Jim because you *know* better.)

Hal Heiner just could not be bothered when he ran against him. Mr. Pro-Life loves to prance around with his mantra of faux compassion but that's all it is. Faux. Fake. Six Flags Over Jesus nonsense. He didn't care about LMAS because his people told him no one else cared about it. Despite it being a tax dollar toilet.

Councilcritters like David Yates and their aides like Marty Meyer are also a huge part of the problem. Marty talks a big game and once attempted to get a bunch of people into believing he and Yates were going to clean up LMAS. It only took a couple weeks for them both to turn into cowards, tucking tails and running away. Saw Meyer in Home Depot not long ago and he couldn't run away from me quickly enough.

The Brown Family — the very folks who helped make my life possible, the folks I admire almost more than anyone in Louisville — are sadly to blame. They don't want to ruffle feathers by actually pressing their boy on issues like this. They're the people who can actually afford to press him but choose not to. Out of sight, out of mind, not interested, other fish to fry.

No-Kill Louisville used to not suck. Then the same kind of people responsible for the LMAS situation took over and started flushing money down the drain. We all know where THAT bunch ended up. It's now a do-nothing organization with little support.

People like Patti Swope and those affiliated with the Kentucky Humane Society could have done a lot but have chosen instead to act out of bitterness and ego. They worked against the former NKL, fight against people like me and attempt to scheme behind-the-scenes to take things over. They fight against common sense approaches that work in other cities and seem

hellbent on gobbling up our tax dollars by continuing with more of the same. They hitched their wagon to Greg Fischer and by blindly supporting him... became the 'chosen' animal folks and will do nothing to step on toes.

The Arrow Fund, which is basically terrific, has some blood on its hands. Rebecca Eaves almost always refuses to mention Metro Animal Services when VERY publicly stepping in to help animals. Even when she knows there's been nonsense going on, she said nothing. Just a few public words from her could have changed everything. I know this — because MY words have changed things by ousting shysters at LMAS. That's not ego, that's a fact. So... there's that. It's maybe the only organization left in town that I have faith in. Hoping Eaves steps up and starts talking instead of biting her tongue.

Jack Conway could act but he's afraid of angering his base in Louisville. He doesn't want to dry up campaign contributions.

Adam Edelen could rip new assholes wide open with a thorough audit that goes back a couple years and digs in deep. But *that* won't happen because it's all a show for him. He won't do anything if it isn't easy and doesn't make him look good. Hell, he wouldn't even dig in at Montgomery County Schools until I rode him about it (look how that turned out — I was right and he won major kudos). If he would sack up and dig in, he'd find a world of wrongdoing and could make law enforcement referral after law enforcement referral.

The governor and both wings of the agriculture world in Frankfort could also force change. But. Uh. You won't see that happening until 2016 at the earliest. Once there's a new governor sworn in. And even then, don't hold your breath because all of them don't like to ruffle feathers.

...

My point: there is no shortage of people with the ability to act. There is no shortage of people who have chosen NOT to act because it's too messy and they're either too lazy or too much of a wet blanket to take action.

None of this is secret. None of what has gone on at LMAS is hidden. I've exposed all of it for years and years. It's out there. People could use it to act.

Instead, they'd prefer to let some halfwit "investigator" at WAVE do a few 90-second stories that reveals nothing and accomplishes nothing. They think that's for the best. And that's where they leave it.

Just about the best thing anybody can do at this point, short of chapping ass in court, is to adopt animals, make sure animals don't end up in the shelter and make sure they stop with this pet store designer dog and cat hype.

- 24 **The 'ole Highlander** // Jul 23, 2014 at 10:18 am

Jake: I agree completely with your assessment of the 'institutional failure' on this issue. You are describing a complete breakdown of the 'institutions' of government (and their management) the should 'govern' this abomination. THIS is not the first time that governmental 'institutions' have broken down around here. It's been going on as far back as 1985 when Merry Jerry appointed Larry Zielke to the MSD as its lawyer and began galavanting around saying "We're No. 1". The 'Kool-Aid' tasted good and Louisville went to sleep.

- 25 jake // Jul 23, 2014 at 10:58 am

After that, Zielke started to represent people like Steve Henry (Hi, Steve! How'd those three convictions work out for you? I told you I couldn't be party to corruption and that I'd put an end to it when I discovered what you were doing. I thought you were a decent person or wanted to be because of your children but you've, along with your wife, proved to be the opposite) and all the other folks in power who have taken this fine city for a ride for the past three decades.

You're right, Highlander. LMAS is illustrative of other problems. People ignore it and tell themselves everything is puppies & rainbows because they "feel good" about what they hear from Jerry or Greg on the teevee. Then they trash talk anybody asking questions or pointing out that there really are significant problems that need to be addressed, telling them to move if they don't like it, to shut up, to stop rocking the boat.

- 26 Jane // Jul 23, 2014 at 11:01 am

Maybe this is something the public has to do itself. We have to sue Greg Fischer and everyone involved. Perhaps crowd funding or something like that could help. There's millions of animal lovers out here and if we can't get support from our officials, we look somewhere else.

- 27 jake // Jul 23, 2014 at 11:04 am

Crowd funding isn't necessary. The very people who proclaim themselves to be leaders of compassion each have hundreds of millions of dollars. It'd take a fraction of that to change everything.

If Patti Swope were worth an ounce of what she preaches on the animal front, she'd finance this and someone would file suit by Monday.

But we're dreaming.

It's going to take someone from outside Kentucky to step in, most likely.

- 28 Comical // Jul 23, 2014 at 1:18 pm

This breaks my heart. I'm crying as I read this what cruel and inhumane people they are. I hope they get what they so deserve. I can't stand cruelty to children, elderly or animals.

- 29 The 'ole Highlander // Jul 23, 2014 at 2:36 pm

Jake: You're right. They have to be from outside Ky. If they were from Lexington, then the 'nincompoops' would claim it's a bunch of UofK fans against Louisville and UofL. If they were from Somerset, then the same bunch would claim they are 'hillbillies' or 'hilljacks.' On and on. IF the NY Times or Washington Post or Bob Woodward or somebody like that came in here with a giant "Airwick" bottle and set out to clean it up — this would be a far, far different city — OVERNIGHT. There'd be more elephant dung in the street than when the Ringling Bros circus came to town.

- 30 Maison's Mom // Jul 23, 2014 at 3:15 pm

Why has this corruption been allowed to continue year after year, administration after administration? It is our responsibility to care for the animal population... This is heart breaking!

Thanx to Rebecca Eaves (and the Arrow Fund) for stepping up to assist the abused and neglected animal population but there has to be an answer to this continued horrific leadership at LMAS.

- 31 **Bonnie Briggs** // Jul 23, 2014 at 3:40 pm

I can personally vouch for the incompetence and corruption of LMAS on two separate occasions. The most recent involved me adopting a Shepherd. After they told me they would not fix him until I promised to adopt him, raised the cost of the adoption fee ("oh he's such a popular breed!"), had me sign a litany of paperwork on how they are not to be held liable for his condition of health, handed over his purported clean bill of health, I take him to my vet and find out he tests positive for heartworm, corona virus, influenza, and has been fixed in such a manner that he is in pain and swollen to the point that he looks unfixed. Incompetent, careless organization that should be completely revamped. I am not at all shocked by this article.

- 32 **joanie** // Jul 23, 2014 at 5:18 pm

+++A meeting was set between Donald, Margaret, me, and our union steward, Sherry Goodman, in which they had me tell the story of what happened in the days leading up to Sadie being transferred to Arrow Fund. After, I was written up.+++

What was the union steward response? Their job is to stand on behalf of the employee, right? Did she raise issues about the write up?

- 33 **jake** // Jul 23, 2014 at 5:21 pm

Of course they did.

But this is Metro Government and Greg Fischer's administration. A notorious bunch for trying to oust unionization. Particularly focused on killing union jobs at LMAS.

So what do you think happened?

Nothing.

You should hear some of the horrific stories animal control officers have shared in confidence. Enough to make your blood boil.

- 34 **joanie** // Jul 23, 2014 at 5:29 pm

I don't know how this stuff works, obviously, but shouldn't we be hearing from the union, then? They're bigger than the city, right? (I mean they're not just Louisville/Kentucky) Isn't that their purpose?

- 35 **Cavemouse** // Jul 23, 2014 at 6:11 pm

The union stewards in Metro Government are mostly patsies for management. In a lot of departments a "good" steward is guaranteed a promotion when they are available. The local and national are guaranteed the dues, so they do not have to do anything but give lip service. I doubt you will hear a peep from the union.

- 36 **The 'ole Highlander** // Jul 25, 2014 at 5:05 pm

Sorry to see this entry in Ville Voice reach the bottom of the site. Don't know if I've ever seen 35+ comments. Obviously there are some 'pissed-off' citizens. Justifiable.

- [37 jake](#) // Jul 25, 2014 at 6:45 pm

There are currently 700+ pending comments for this story. Only authorizing the folks we recognize.

- [38 Lynne](#) // Jul 28, 2014 at 3:44 pm

I continue to watch mainstream media for additional coverage of this story, yet see none.

Is anyone involved going to be held accountable or charged with neglect/animal cruelty in regard to Sadie?

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Louisville Metropolitan Police Department

Public Integrity Unit

FOLLOW UP

CASE NUMBER: 14-072

SUBJECT(S): Metro Government Employees

DATE: 10/15/14

LOCATION: Louisville Metro Animal Services

NARRATIVE: Animal Cruelty.

Follow up needed		Date	Initials
1	Interview with Heather Adkins was schedule for Tuesday, September 23, 2014. Heather Adkins did not call or show for interview. Investigator called numerous times and left messages. At this time she has not returned any calls.	09/23/14	CK
2	Interview with Ingram Quick on October 1, 2014. During the interview I was given a black binder containing the findings of their investigation. I requested a disc containing all information.	10/01/14	CK/ML
3	Interview with Donald Robinson, Director of LMAS [REDACTED] Called Donald Robinson on 10/28 and scheduled interview for Thursday October 30 th at 0900 hrs.	10/30/14	CL/ML
4	Interview with Margaret Brosko, Special Initiatives and Communication Manager.	11/03/14	CK/ML
5	Interview with Kim Ward, Foster Coordinator for LMAS LIVES IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	EMAIL SENT	CK
6	Interview with Alisa Oerther, Community Engagement Supervisor for LMAS	11/04/14 0900 HRS	
7	Interview with Karen Dickson, Volunteer Coordinator for LMAS [REDACTED] Called on 10/20 and scheduled interview for 10/21 at 1330 hrs. at the PIU Office.	10/21/14	CK/AM
8	Interview with Tabatha Gray, LMAS Vet Supervisor	11/04/14 5 NOON NOON	CK ML
9	Interview with Dr. Patricia Kennedy, Jefferson Animal Hospital Interview scheduled for October 29 after 3pm.	10/29/14	CK/ML

10	Interview with Dr. Stephanie Pollett, East Bullet Veterinary Clinic [REDACTED] HEATHER ADKINS PERSONAL VETERINARY DOCTOR.		
11	Interview with Rebecca Eaves, Arrow Fund Board of directors President. CP. [REDACTED]		
12	Interview with Sediqa Reynolds, Chief of Community Building, Oversees LMEMS. [REDACTED]	10/30/14	CK/KD
13	Interview with Officer Lisa Nagle, First Division. Scheduled on 10/20/14 at 1400 hrs. Lisa called at 1255 hrs. and requested interview be moved to 1500 hrs because of manpower issues.	10/20/14 1500 HRS	CK/ML
14	Interview with Sherry Goodman, Union Representative (Teamsters) for LMAS [REDACTED]	N/A	
15	Casey Castle [REDACTED] called investigator and wanted to discuss the investigation involving Sadie. I called he back numerous times. Ms. Castle stated she would call back after work. I have received no calls from Ms. Castle as of 11/03/14,		
16	Investigator emailed Amanda Crook (animal house) on 11/03/14 to discuss the Sadie investigation. <i>ADOPTION/Rescue Coordinator</i> INTERVIEW	11-5-2014	CK ML
17	Interviewed with Amanda Wolfe at LMAS	11-5-2014	CK CK ML
18	11-5-14 Interviews given to Sgt. Les Skaggs, CSU. Annmaria Crook, Tabitha Gray	11-5-14	CK CK
19	and Amanda Wolfe to be transcribed.		
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