



Joette Katz
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT of CHILDREN and FAMILIES
Making a Difference for Children, Families and Communities



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

February 25, 2015

The Honorable Danté Bartolomeo
Room 011
State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The Honorable Diana Urban
Room 4042
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The Honorable Henri Martin
Room 3400
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The Honorable Noreen Kokoruda
Room 4200
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

**Re: Annual Report Concerning Actual or Suspected Instances of
Animal Neglect or Cruelty, C.G.S. § 17a-100c**

Dear Senator Bartolomeo, Representative Urban, Senator Martin and Representative Kokoruda:

I am pleased to submit this report as required by Section 17a-100c of the General Statutes (Section 4 of Public Act 14-70) concerning actual or suspected instances of animal neglect or cruelty.

Between June 1, 2014, and December 16, 2014, The Department of Children and Families has received a total of forty-one (41) written reports from the Department of Agriculture during calendar year 2014. Of the forty-one (41) reports received, seventeen (17) had histories with DCF; however, only one (1) met the standard for an investigation by DCF based on the information in the written report and it was accepted.

To ensure timely and appropriate handling of all reports received, DCF has developed a protocol for investigating such reports and it is attached for your information (Attachment 1). In addition, I'm attaching a de-identified summary of the reports received, by month (Attachment 2), and a copy of the log utilized to track all reports received by the Department of Agriculture (Attachment 3).

Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Dakibu Muléy, Director of Careline Operations at: 860-560-7001 or Dakibu.Muley@CT.GOV.

Sincerely,



Joëtte Katz
Commissioner

JK/jmh
Attachments

cc: Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, Department of Agriculture
Members of the Committee on Children
Senate Clerk
House Clerk
Clerk, Committee on Children
Office of Legislative Research
State Librarian

PROTOCOL FOR SUSPECTED ANIMAL ABUSE REPORTS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- STEP 1 Reports are received and logged by the Commissioner's Office
- STEP 2 Reports are forwarded to the Careline Director
- STEP 3 Reports are logged-in by Careline support staff, and are catalogued utilizing key identifiers to track future reports of the same incident
- STEP 4 Reports are assessed by the Careline Director to determine if they meet the statutory definition of Abuse/Neglect (copy of log attached) and to verify whether DCF has an open case for the subject of the report
- STEP 5 If the address provided in the report has an open child protective service case, including an investigations case, the Careline staff will provide the assigned social worker with all relevant information from the report, and such information shall be included in the department's record on the child
- STEP 6 If the information received about a family with an open case, meets the legal sufficiency of the allegation standard for investigation by DCF, based on the information in the written report, a new investigation on that family will be conducted, the results will be provided to the assigned social worker, all relevant information from the investigation will be included in the department's record on the child, and appropriate service and supervisions will be made by the department
- STEP 7 If the address provided in the report does not have an open child protective service case, including an investigations case, and based on the information in the written report, does not meet the legal sufficiency for investigation by DCF, no additional action will be taken
- STEP 8 If the address provided in the report does not have an open child protective service case, including an investigations case, and based on the information in the written report meets the legal sufficiency for investigation by DCF, the Careline shall conduct an investigation of the allegation, and will follow all established protocols for investigating cases of alleged abuse or neglect.

ATTACHMENT 2

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
SUMMARY OF SUSPECTED ANIMAL ABUSE REPORTS 2014**

Month	Reports Received	Open Case	Prior DCF History	Reports that Met Standard for Investigation	Review Still Open	Cases Opened
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-
June	1	0	1	0	0	0
July	1	0	1	0	0	0
August	1	0	1	0	0	0
September	2	0	1	0	0	0
October	11	1	5	0	0	0
November	22	2	8	1	0	0
December	3	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	41	3	17	1	0	0

LOG UTILIZED TO TRACK REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SUSPECTED ANIMAL ABUSE REPORTS											
NUMBER OF REPORT	DATE OF REPORT	FILE NUMBER	NAME(S) OF SUSPECT(S)	DOB	CITY	REPORTER'S NAME	LINK NUMBER	CLOSED OR OPEN WHEN INCIDENT HAPPENED	REPORT MADE TO DCF?	ACCEPTED?	OTHER