

To: Honorable Hillman  
Mitchell H. Cohen Building & U.S. Courthouse  
4th & Cooper Streets, Room 1050  
Camden, New Jersey, 08101

CLERK  
2008 JUN 15 AM 11: 58

**Re: Civil Action Number: 07-2867 (NLH), MDL No 1850**

Dear Honorable Hillman and all parties concerned,

I Pray that you will find merit and give consideration to the following when making your determination in the above referenced case.

First, the actions of the pet food companies stating the following is nothing short of blackmail - This was sent to me by my attorney from and regarding the pet food manufacturers, et all,:

at present the only offer which Defendants have made is to waive their possible right to seek reimbursement of their legal costs against you in exchange for a voluntary dismissal with prejudice of your case against them. If you accept this offer of a voluntary dismissal, Defendants would waive their claim for costs against you, you would most likely not need to participate in future discovery or depositions in this case, and you would not owe our firms any money for the several million dollars of time and costs we have dedicated to this case. If you accept this option please send a REPLY EMAIL IMMEDIATELY with the words "You have my authority to negotiate a settlement on whatever terms you deem to be in my best interest including the possibility of a settlement with no monetary payment to me but which would shield me from any claim for costs from Defendants by my filing a voluntary dismissal in exchange for a waiver of costs."

To continue:

\* 24 million dollars is not but a small percentage that just 1 of the companies involved in the manufacturing of pet foods makes in 1 year, by selling products to us, the consumer. Menu Foods had a 60.3 million dollar profit last year, (documents attached).

- 5 pages of defendants "chipping in" to appease this settlement is absurd. (attached)

\* The CEO of Ralston Purina makes 7.5 million dollars per year, (document attached).

\* The corporate greed for raising profits that was the reasoning behind using cheaper ingredients that killed our companions.

\*The fact that however viewed by law, these "pets" were companion animals, and viewed as family members.

\* The wording of the food they sell us as healthy, and we, the consumer, trusted them on this, we now find contains euthanized cats and dogs, as well as chemicals such as chelant that are known to cause cancer. These chemicals are hazardous materials, (documentation

attached).

\* The word "Guaranteed" means nothing at all, except for the package replacement cost.

\* The irreparable physical, mental, emotional damage far surpasses the financial damages done. The 'out of pocket expenses' paid were not enough to save the lives of our furry friends. We would have paid anything to keep our companions alive.

\* The damage done to the caregivers of innocents who were left in the dark watching helplessly as our companions suffered and died in a traumatic way. There are no words to describe the suffering we had to helplessly watch our companions go through, when these companies had known for some time that there was a problem with the ingredients.

\* Jobs have been lost, homes lost, families broken, lives shattered because of this horrid ordeal. Post traumatic stress disorders, depression, some suicides; all because of pet food manufacturers greed.

\* Fact: the companies at fault down played the total effect in the numbers being reported of sick and dying animals for a very long time.

\* Fact: some off the companies "chipping in to this fund" still had the tainted food on their store shelves for months after the recall came public knowledge. Most stores not even notifying or alerting their customers as to the potential problem. Some cans of recalled foods were just relabeled.

\* More than half of the proposed 24 million will go to attorney's, Not to those of us who spent countless dollars trying to save our fur children. 24 million dollars for 2 countries of persons affected by this, is an insult. Persons who chose no legal representation are penalized the worst.

\* Arrests have been made in the mortgage companies scams. This case before you is a greater crime against humanity, falsely advertising nourishment and nutrition for our fur companions hiding the facts that cats and dogs are being fed to cats and dogs.  
- Phenobarbital had to be replaced as the euthanasia drug, because so many animals had an immunity to this drug, because of the rendered down animals from the pounds being used as 'meat by products.

\* The used photo processing chemicals being used as 'vitamins supplements.' Fumaric acid as one of the "protein ingredients" that is used to coat the dry foods, especially cats food, is mainly used in paints and varnishes. (Document attached).

\* There is nothing nutritious in cat and dog food, and these companies are selling pet owners complete synthetic and depleted "whole food" garbage to the unknowing consumer at an enormous amount of money. (Average can of cat food is approx. \$1.19 per can)

\* As for the statement on the claim form "what was the value of your pet", how can a price be placed on a friend, a companion, and family member? How can \$900.00 be expected to

erase the horrid memories of the pain and suffering we watched as our companions suffered so, as we were force feeding the same poison that made them sick, not knowing its contents, and that it was poison? How can \$900.00 erase the indescribable horrible memory of the look of the will to live on your companions face when they had to be put to sleep because their little bodies could not endure any longer? That is a memory I personally will never, ever forget, and will suffer over for the rest of my life.

All of the above was willful intent to deceive and defraud the consumer, and now; blackmail.

I, on behalf of myself, and all affected parties, ask the Court, and Hon. Hillman, to view these actions as nothing less than crimes warranting criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law. Also, I/we ask, that not just future testing on pet foods be done, but the truth in advertising be upheld.

Please review the profits for the 5 plus pages of defendants, then make your decision of what settlement amount would be "fair".

Sincerely,



Deborah Hock  
250 San Mateo Road, Unit 13  
Half moon Bay, CA 94019  
(650) 712-1394

Cc's:

Craig A. Hoover  
Hogan & Hartson  
555 Thirteenth Street  
Washington, DC 20004

William M Audet  
Audet & Partners LLP  
221 Main Street, Suite 1460  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Not a day goes by that I don't cry. BooKitty was my everything, my best friend, my companion. Having to place a "value" on him, is almost beyond bearable.

*The wording in the Proposed Settlement "Replacement value" + "cost" is beyond cruel, calloused + insensitive. These companies advertise "caring about your pet".* D. Hock

According to Jack Chung (12)  
at FTC - FTC section 5 (a)  
still is applicable

Dear Hon. Tillman, et al -

A week after my best friend had to be prematurely put to sleep because his body gave out after several crashes from the initial 3 month 24/7 poisoning violent illness.

I wrote his Memorial, (attached) When I was finished, I went to my computer to find a picture of him to attach - There, set aside from all the rest was one I had never seen before -

So I ask you - what is the "replacement value" of love so great that it would send you a picture from beyond the grave?

Deborah Hock #13  
250 San Mateo Rd.  
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019  
(650) 712-1394

## The Beauty in Boo's Passing

Most people would have thought he was ordinary. "just like all the rest". He had likes and dislikes, good times and bad, full of emotions, just like we all do.

During his golden years he slowed down a bit, with arthritis setting in. Then, his body started betraying him with one ailment after another.

Even towards the end of his life here, his eyes were so full of love, and the will to live. Only once did I ever see fear in his eyes, but that was only for a moment.

When his body completely betrayed him, he was forced to go.

When I could see that the end was near, I gave him my Blessings, and asked God to personally see that his Spirit made it to Heaven. "Directly to Your Hands, Lord"

Music soothed him, so I would play his favorites for him. On the day he had to go, the music of an album entitle "Angels" was playing. The music ended at the exact same time he died.

Being his caregiver for so many years, his passing away devastated me. The heaviness and sadness was completely overwhelming to me.

The day after, through tears, I asked God to let me know that he had arrived safely. "God," I begged, "I need to know he is with you and okay."

I continued pleading with God, "I didn't care for him for so long to not want to know that he is safe." "Forgive me Father if this seems a lack in my faith, but I need a delivery confirmation. I did put him in Your Hands, " I sobbed. "I need to see something visual, something I know is not just my mind playing tricks." As I had been hearing mental messages from my friend of things said long ago.

"A blue jay, or a wood pecker, something out of season," I asked God through tears would not stop.

Calmness came over me that I cannot describe, a complete peace. But, still I cried.

A short while later, as I sat at the kitchen table, something caught my attention outside the door. There sat in full glory, a red breasted Robin. For some time, that Robin just stayed there, looking directly at me.

The Robin flew off and was immediately replaced by a smaller bird with a deep red head and wings, and a dark chest, one I had never seen the likes of before.

That little bird perched itself on the branch below the one the Robin had occupied, and stood right on the head of a ceramic whimsical frog that is on the branch.

That little bird just stood on this silly frogs head, and as the Robin did, stared directly at me for the same length of time, and then flew off.

(I have not seen these birds prior, or since that time, and it was defiantly not the season for any migratory birds).

I knew that this was the answer to my request from God, "The protector of birds" I used to call my friend.

6 days later, his body was buried, and as I stood at the kitchen sink later that night, I mentally heard him say, "I have to go now". And I could feel the essence of his presence that had been with me, leave. He had graduated into somewhere else in Heaven.

"But don't worry, I'll be back", were the last words I mentally heard from him.

The next night, I went to a box where I keep cards, to send one to a friend with the message of Boo's passing, and one card I didn't remember being in there fell into my hands. A card that said "Bringing You Blessings" with a red breasted Robin.

No tears have been shed since then, and I know that he is okay. I know, with all of being, that he is in Gods Hands, and I know that there is a Heaven. I know Prayers are heard, and I know that Jesus is real, and He cares, even for the 'just the ordinary'.

When it is your time to go, go with Peace, and Faith, knowing God IS real.



I swear under penalty of perjury that A- I did not, nor know of any human that took this picture. B- no-one but myself has access to my computer or digital camera & That this photo was not created by me, altered, edited or ~~in~~ any way shape or form manipulated by me - or any living person.

Leberah Hoek  
Sept 10, 2008

RE: CIVIL ACTION NO. # 07-2867 (NHH) No. 1850



From Mgr. H.M.B. Safeway

Trms Bites beef in gravy 00190140053  
~~001901400~~

Chicken in gravy 1901400532

Variety pack 1901400539

Ocean fish 1901429616

Chicken entree 1901429636

Chicken sliced 1901401311

Fish Flakes 1901401321

HMB Safeway

Recalled 1 AM

Sold Dec - (present -  
manager) he pulled 5 off  
shift while I was there  
11-21

**The proposed settlement is up for review in the Federal Court, stemming from the tragedy of the poisoned pet foods in early 2007.**

**As the proposal stands now, all company's involved, (listed on the next 7 pages), have "chipped in" 24 million dollars to settle with those whose pets were killed by the tainted pet foods. Some of these animals died a very slow, prolonged torturous death. Some died quickly.**

**This amount is to also cover the costs of 9 law firms in the U.S. only. Canada is also included in this, and was also affected by the poisoned pet food. It is unclear how many law firms are involved there. It is also unclear to exactly how many persons this fund is to cover. All we know is that 2 countries were affected; several thousands of animal family members were lost - prematurely.**

**This petition, in a nut shell, is asking the Judge to reconsider the amount(s) that these companies should pay in damages, also for consideration of criminal prosecution, also to review the standard of ingredients and chemicals used and that advertising by the pet food manufacturers be considered harmful, misleading and lies intended to mislead the public solely for monetary gain for the companies.**

**If changes aren't made here, and an example made, it will be our kids next. The same companies that manufacture pet foods, also manufacture foods and items that are used in every household, every day. Many are treats for kids.**

This was used as an "in a nutshell" to gather some signatures on the petition "Objection to Proposed Settlement". The 7 pages of defendants was provided to view.

*Subrahmanya*



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Objection regarding PetFood Settlement - The Petition Site

**Target:** Honorable Judge Hillman

**Sponsored by:** Theora's Rock & all parents of fur children

signature  
goal: 10,000

83  
signatures!

petition - 224 signatures

To: Honorable Hillman  
 Mitchell H. Cohen Building, U.S. Courthouse  
 4th & Cooper Streets, Room 1156  
 Camden, New Jersey, 08101

Re: Civil Action Number: 07-2867 (NLH), MDL No 1850

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\* There is nothing nutritious in cat and dog food, and these companies are selling pet owners complete synthetic





















Name: Deborah Flock  
 email: jfbmbeck@yahoo.com  
 Street Address: 250 San Mateo Road, Spc. 13  
 City: Half Moon Bay  
 Zip/Postal Code: 94019  
 Country: United States

Increase your signature's impact by persons  
 For more impact, add a personal comment

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Upload photo

**We signed the "Objection regarding PetFood Settlement" petition!**

- # 50: Sep 1, 2008, **Anonymous, Maine**  Delete
- # 48: Aug 30, 2008, **Can Akk, Turkey**  Delete
- # 48: Aug 27, 2008, **Debra Bowen, California**  Delete  
The judgment for \$24 million for these companies to pay isocket change. \$24 million per company might be something to think about. These animals in many cases were peoples children. Imagine if it were your dog or cat!!!!
- # 47: Aug 25, 2008, **Paul Schattler, Michigan**  Delete  
CHINA SUCKS!!!!
- # 46: Aug 25, 2008, **Paul Schattler, Michigan**  Delete  
CHINA SUCKS!!!!
- # 45: Aug 25, 2008, **Deborah Hixon, Germany**  Delete
- # 44: Aug 24, 2008, **Pam Boland, Georgia**  Delete
- # 43: Aug 24, 2008, **Susan Brennecke, Virginia**  Delete
- # 42: Aug 24, 2008, **Mark Bowser, Indiana**  Delete
- # 41: Aug 24, 2008, **Susan Polaneki, Michigan**  Delete
- # 40: Aug 24, 2008, **Patricia Cunningham, Arizona**  Delete
- # 39: Aug 24, 2008, **Sandra Heffner, Florida**  Delete
- # 38: Aug 24, 2008, **Anonymous, Nevada**  Delete
- # 37: Aug 23, 2008, **Anonymous, New Jersey**  Delete  
Please remember, pets are pets and part of the family. What happened here was gross negligence and compensation over and above the levels proposed is needed. Thank you for reading my brief comments
- # 36: Aug 23, 2008, **Anonymous, New Jersey**  Delete  
Better controls are needed for our fur Children
- # 35: Aug 23, 2008, **Wesley Dymas, Arizona**  Delete  
The horrific end to my life long work of my first expensive multi champion, Drago And the terrible tragedy it inflicted upon our family including his death at my 8 eight old's feet cannot be in vain. Nothing can bring our "son" back or compensate for this murder and our suffering, but those responsible in any way or connected to it in any way must be punished to the full extent of the law, this must become a precedent setting case so that nothing like this can ever happen again anywhere to anyone. I'm terrified to even try to recommend anything to my clients as I don't feel I can trust any company anywhere. Pet food, kid's toys, tomatoes, etc. all found unsafe recently. Make it so costly that they have to be very carefull
- # 34: Aug 23, 2008, **Alison Hestand, Connecticut**  Delete  
-
- # 33: Aug 21, 2008, **Nancy Billings, Maryland**  Delete  
When we lose a pet it is like losing a loved one such as a child to alot of us - the pain is just as deep - These big corp. are just money hungry and dont seem to care about anything but money - I will not buy anything from mensa foods anymore - I get my pet food from Flint River Ranch & Castor & Pollux who are a corp. - all of their pet and care This settlement is just to low
- # 32: Aug 21, 2008, **Nanci Temple, California**  Delete
- # 31: Aug 21, 2008, **Margo Rapraeger, North Carolina**  Delete  
How can anyone believe the big corporations anymore? They lie to us and destroy our pets - Serious guidelines are needed to keep these companies in line!
- # 30:

- Aug 21, 2008, **Susan D., Michigan**  Delete  
The guardians of the affected pets suffered along with them. We should not have to worry about pet food on the store shelves. This should have never happened and the pet food suppliers need to earn our trust again.
- # 29: Aug 21, 2008, **Rita Bollinger, Colorado**  Delete  
I am tired of being deceived and manipulated by the large corporations. Our pets are not able to defend themselves and we as consumers must rely on these companies to be honest and humane. That has not happened here. It is revolting how money overrides any care or consideration for living beings, be they human or animal. This must stop. Our next step must be to unite and boycott these lying assinine companies by making our own food and refuse to spend another cent on their poisonous concoctions that they claim to be nutritious and healthy. Please overrule on this ridiculous amount of money that has been "rationed out" by these companies. Our animals suffered horribly and were hospitalized, died or were in need of surgeries etc. in order to survive. They needed medications, prescription food and someone to ~~stay~~ care for them. Work hours were lost by many. Please consider our cause. We love our wonderful pets, they are part of the family.
- # 28: Aug 21, 2008, **Jr-Ann Murphy, Tennessee**  Delete  
Since Manu Foods just increased their profits the settlement proposal sounds ridiculously low in relation to all of the pets who were murdered by these companies. Not only should all monetary expenses and losses be covered, but there should be restitution for pain and suffering. These companies cannot be let go with just a slap on the wrist.
- # 27: Aug 21, 2008, **Robin Gonzales, California**  Delete
- # 26: Aug 21, 2008, **LAURA CALIFRI, New Jersey**  Delete
- # 25: Aug 21, 2008, **Kristi McKinnon, Texas**  Delete  
The loss of a pet has the same impact as the loss of a loved one. It is the same as murder in my book!!
- # 24: Aug 21, 2008, **Ginger Geronimo, Alabama**  Delete  
This needs to be taken ALOT more seriously than it is. Animals are living beings. They have rights & they have feelings. Many of them suffered & lost their lives due to the tainted pet food. Please take this seriously.
- # 23: Aug 21, 2008, **Sammie Fisher, California**  Delete  
To think that you can lose a pet due to negligence from the vary people that are suppose to provide healthy food for our pets is horrific. Please do something to save any pet, and their caretakers, from ever having to go through this pain again.
- # 22: Aug 21, 2008, **ALPHA WI, Germany**  Delete
- # 21: Aug 21, 2008, **Steven Meyer, New York**  Delete  
pets are such an important part of our lives. and when one is taken froma family due to severe negligence. the consiquense should be great.
- # 20: Aug 21, 2008, **B.D. M. DEGIACOMO, New York**  Delete
- # 19: Aug 20, 2008, **Ken Westley, California**  Delete
- # 18: Aug 20, 2008, **JAYLA DAWN WOODRUM, Kentucky**  Delete
- # 17: Aug 20, 2008, **Charyl "Kitty" Placott, California**  Delete  
loss of lfo affects all who knew the animal that died....they deserve help for it..
- # 16: Aug 20, 2008, **Darick F., Canada**  Delete
- # 15: Aug 20, 2008, **Anonymous, Pennsylvania**  Delete
- # 14: Aug 20, 2008, **Lisa McNamara, Virginia**  Delete  
Pet food companies need to have strict guidelines. Our pets depend on us for their health and safety. Please help us keep our "furry" family members healthy.
- # 13: Aug 20, 2008, **Nicole Westley, Arizona**  Delete  
Honorable Judge Hillman, please dont let these companies get away with killing our companions. They make 24 million in one day and have already raised petfood costs. My sammy was a member of my family for 9 years before my children and I were forced to see him die due to the poison food. Please,we beg you,our fur babies are priceless. Thank you.
- # 12: Aug 20, 2008, **Becky Vico, Texas**  Delete
- # 11: Aug 20, 2008, **JOYCE LAURICELLA, New Jersey**  Delete

# 10: Aug 20, 2008 **John May, New Jersey** Delete

# 9: Aug 20, 2008 **Jeanette Krazeal, Illinois** Delete

# 8: Aug 20, 2008 **Doreen Zelasko, New Jersey** Delete

# 7: Aug 20, 2008 **Noelle Mitchell, Illinois** Delete

# 6: Aug 20, 2008, **ELAINE ROBINSON, United Kingdom** Delete  
 They sell this stuff knowing it's poisoned they just want £ they don't care about animals they just want to fill their bank accounts (Something should be done here)

# 5: Aug 19, 2008, **Anonymous, Minnesota** Delete

We know that pet food was contaminated way before the recall. I have had two dogs and one cat die. I paid thousands of dollars to keep each pet alive. After all, they are part of our family. I could not afford it, but luckily the vet let me postdate checks. To watch a family member and be so miserable is horrible. One dog was O.K. one day, got sick, and died two days later. It bothered me that I did not know what happened to her. Now, I know. She was poisoned! I did not realize until I read the letter that cats and dogs are fed to cats and dogs. I was not aware of most of the things. Just the China part. How horrible!! This is a crime against animals. It is still going on. It has got to stop. The way this settlement is going, a person will only get about \$7.00 per animal. There will be more and more people making a claim, once they hear about it. Not enough settlement money is put away for the class action suit. I pray you will take into consideration that our family members are worth more than what will be given. The companies have to change the way they make pet food. They have got to start making it good for the animals. It needs to be tested. The pet food industry needs regulations. I love my animals very much. I have two dogs--Alize and Cinnamon, and one cat--Shadow in urns with their name on it. I had them cremated and put into urns. Their boxes are in the dining room in a glass case with pictures of them also. I have another dog Halo in an urn, and a cat Cuddles. These two are not a part of the pet food recall, but they both got cancer. Strange. I miss all my pets alot. I cry and weep, especially for the poisoned ones. What horror was going on in their bodies that they could not tell us about? Headaches, stomach aches, eye problems, ear problems, body and leg pain. Not being able to tell me what was wrong with them. The pet food industry knew what was going on and did nothing. How would they have liked to be one of the pets?

# 4: Aug 19, 2008, **Steve Dale, Australia** Delete

DO RIGHT BY THE ANIMALS THAT LOST THERE LIVES IN THIS TRAGEDY, DONT SUPPORT THE COMPANY FOR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE, SUPPORT THE PEOPLE WHO LOST FAMILY MEMBERS.

# 3: Aug 19, 2008, **Angie Airdo, Illinois** Delete

While I almost lost my cat in December 2007 to chronic renal failure and kidney stones I don't think it was from the cat food, but still I wonder since I also have her brother from the same litter and he ate different food then she did and he's perfectly well. I've had them since the day they were born and they will be 15 next month. I can't imagine my life without them and know how devastated so many pet owners were and are over the deaths of their family members. Just recently a friend of mine lost her cat to this horrible death from cat food poisoning and my heart goes out to her. I think that the penalty should have been harsher otherwise who's gonna stop the next company from doing the same thing in order to cut costs.

# 2: Aug 10, 2008, **Anonymous, New York** Delete

# 1: Aug 14, 2008, **Donna Elliott, Virginia** Delete

My 10 year old boxer, Abby, passed away 1-19-07. She suddenly became ill 8-06, she had been eating Alpo and Old Roy canned dog food and some dry Old Roy. She had NEVER had any health issues before, except for an infected eye one time. When she got sick, she was in ICU for three days and had to have her blood levels check two times a week and then turning into one time a week. I had to give her fluids twice a day. She passed January 19, 2007 after a long battle with renal failure. Our family, including her son, will never again be the same without her. The five months of her sickness where very hard emotionally and financially on our family, but we did everything we could to save her. Abby, along with so many other pets were taken from us in the worst way ever--by poisoning. Our government and FDA need to step up and put laws to protect our pets into play. We need to be compensated for our losses even though money would NEVER bring our loved one's back. Set regulations that hold these companies and individuals accountable for their actions and punish them to the fullest for their negligence and stupidity that have taken our babies away from us. Even though the recall didn't get called until March 2007, I know that the contaminated food caused my Abby to get sick, suffer, and then pass away.

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- # 54: Sep 4, 2008, **Suzana Williams, California** [Delete](#)  
#60 said exactly what I was thinking. There should be more regulations and less imports that can't be regulated.
- # 53: Sep 4, 2008, **Angelique Goatsch, North Dakota** [Delete](#)
- # 52: Sep 4, 2008, **Terri Taylor, Colorado** [Delete](#)  
I watched my best friend suffer and pass away at a young age unnecessarily because of the lack of enforcement to keep their food safe. What kind of guarantees do we have that this will never happen again? Or that it will affect people too the next time? Please make and enforce tougher regulations so that we don't lose any more pets, pets that we call our children. There simply can't be a next time. They depend on us, please don't let them down again.
- # 51: Sep 4, 2008, **Melissa Chavez, Washington** [Delete](#)  
Every day there is another recall on something.... THIS HAS TO STOP! I lost two working service dogs. The courts called them "property" I considered them my family and my lifeline to the outside world. Greed ended that! There needs to be punishment for this, not just a monetary amount that they can re-coup in a few days. I lost more than my two girls, I lost my life, and the ability to go anywhere. I would never consider feeding an animal a manufactured product again, and I am about to stop buying food in grocery stores as well. I feel our food isn't safe anymore either.
- # 50: Sep 4, 2008, **Diana Gregory, California** [Delete](#)  
While there is no amount of money that will bring back the animals killed in the name of cheap ingredients, there has to be some settlement that is large enough to make it clear that our animals are important to us, and the same care that goes into human food production must be taken for companion animals.
- # 49: Sep 4, 2008, **Amanda Paige Garcia, California** [Delete](#)
- # 48: Sep 4, 2008, **Jennifer Oldham, Indiana** [Delete](#)  
How do we judge a society? By how it treats the least powerful - the children, the elderly, and especially the animals (pets and all life). This is beyond uncivilized, this is barbarous. UNTIL we address these (and other) issues by outlawing such behavior, more will die.
- # 47: Sep 4, 2008, **Julianne Huettinger, California** [Delete](#)  
Please reconsider as these loving pets are the same AS our children to us. Our wonderful trusting companions. Irreplaceable. These companies need to get the message loud and clear to BE more responsible. Sincerely, Julianne Huettinger
- # 46: Sep 4, 2008, **Heather Crosson, California** [Delete](#)
- # 45: Sep 4, 2008, **Charles Wiles, Virginia** [Delete](#)  
All of my pets, 6 cats are considered as important as is my family. Why would the courts not recognize this and yet still convict persons for animal cruelty/neglect. Is this a double standard?
- # 44: Sep 4, 2008, **Lisa Camargo, Ohio** [Delete](#)  
As many pet parents can probably relate too, we were all affected by the pet food recall in some form and some more than others with the loss of their pets. This hit really close to home because my cat who had CRF was affected by this recall deteriorated quicker. She lived with CRF for years then decline once I fed her contaminated food. Thank God it did not cause damage to my other cat & dog but it hit home. I find myself check store shelves to see if their is expired food on the shelves and its sad that your local FDA and Health Department do not see this as a major issue since its not human food consumption. I do not believe this settlement is enough major changes need to be taken and move towards this never happending again. This is pocket change to them they can afford more than what they are willing to settle for. You can't replace what we lost but we can make a difference if we speak up.
- # 43: Sep 4, 2008, **Lynda Miller, Kentucky** [Delete](#)  
Please reconsider the paltry amount(s) that these companies should pay in damages, and realize that there should be criminal prosecution. But the MOST important thing is to force a review of the standard of ingredients and chemicals used, as well as to stop advertising by the pet food manufacturers that is so misleading, with flat-out lies intended to mislead the public solely for monetary gain for the companies.
- # 42: Sep 4, 2008, **Kristina Dillingham, California** [Delete](#)
- # 41: Sep 4, 2008, **Phyllis I. Fischer, Ohio** [Delete](#)  
so, once again the lawyers win? there should be funds directed to pay vet bills, and cover funeral expenses- yzz, it isn't free to cremate a beloved pet- please consider the loss of life here, as the life it is- just because it is a fur kid, does not make the loss less- in fact, for many, they lost their only friend- sad fact, but true.




















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**We signed the "Objection regarding PetFood Settlement" petition!**

- # 83: Sep 9, 2008, **Roxie Schlesman, Wisconsin**  [Delete](#)
- # 82: Sep 9, 2008, **Debra Chiem, California**  [Delete](#)  
The pain of the loss of my family pet (big kitty) is something myself and my husband still cry about when we drive past where we were living at the time of his death. He had been a part of our family for over 10 years.
- # 81: Sep 8, 2008, **Tammy Brancato, Connecticut**  [Delete](#)
- # 80: Sep 7, 2008, **Chris Bulmer, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 79: Sep 6, 2008, **Ray Armstrong, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 78: Sep 6, 2008, **Jan Granato, Florida**  [Delete](#)
- # 77: Sep 6, 2008, **Alicia Taylor Barrett, Colorado**  [Delete](#)  
We lost 1 of our special cats to this. There seems to not be close observation when it comes to pet food. Our pets food is just as important as our food, or our childrens food. We've had problems with the Chinese as far as our pets food, our childrens toys, our toothpaste, etc. It WAS NOT an accident, therefore everything that we MUST get from them should be inspected 20 times better than it is. To some of us, our pets are our children. I have cats and children and I can tell you that I love my children just as much as I love my cats. I've watched them both grow, feed them, nurtured them and loved them since my kids and my pets were born. And now I have to watch what I give BOTH of them to eat and play with! And thats just ridiculous.
- # 76: Sep 5, 2008, **Carol Wexler, California**  [Delete](#)  
Big business should be made to take responsibility for their actions. They made a mistake and they should pay for it. Further they should be fined and/or imprisoned for misleading statements and down right dishonesty in their advertising and on their packaging. What happened to self respect and ethics? It is obvious that greed is more important to them. They need to understand that it is cheaper in the long run to do the right thing. Make these companies pay the people that suffered the most the amounts they deserve for their sick animals or animals that passed away. That is the very least they can do. Unfortunately, it could never be enough. Most of these people would much rather have their healthy pets back.
- # 75: Sep 5, 2008, **Janet Murphy, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 74: Sep 5, 2008, **Cynthia LaFever, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 73: Sep 5, 2008, **Ray Kuhn, California**  [Delete](#)  
These companies need to pay so it sinks in that they have caused so much harm, and next time, it could be humans who are struck dead.
- # 72: Sep 5, 2008, **Bobby E. Nett, Virginia**  [Delete](#)  
PROTECT OUR PETS AND CHANGE THE LAWS TO HOLD THESE COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUALS ACCOUNTABLE FOR WHAT THEY HAVE DONE TO OUR COMPANIONS. WE LOST OUR BABY ABBY TO THIS INSANITY. PLEASE HELP OUR PETS
- # 71: Sep 5, 2008, **Wanda Hanson, California**  [Delete](#)  
Help keep our pets safe!
- # 70: Sep 5, 2008, **Anonymous, Colorado**  [Delete](#)
- # 69: Sep 5, 2008, **Shirley Bates, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 68: Sep 5, 2008, **Patricia Dyeon, California**  [Delete](#)  
This case doesn't even get close to the issue of the number of pers that became very sick, but didn't die -- but now have damaged gastrontestinal systems.
- # 67: Sep 4, 2008, **Rodger Lee, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 66: Sep 4, 2008, **Denise Marie Parrott, California**  [Delete](#)
- # 65: Sep 4, 2008, **Ross Hughes, California**  [Delete](#)  
I think companies should be held accountable for what comers are out in quality and the marketing of a safe, nutritional food source for animals. I had a cat (my friend) that died not long ago and it may have been caused by food I purchased thinking it was good as well as safe for him to eat. To think I might have unintentionally caused anything to happen to him by the food I bought makes me feel even worse... my cat was a huge part of my family!!

## Objection regarding PetFood Settlement

Target:

Honorable Judge Hillman

Sponsored by:

Deborah Hock & all parents of Fur Children

A request for the Hon. Hillman to review and make changes to the current settlement proposal regarding the poisoned pet food that took so many lives.

To: Honorable Hillman

Mitchell H. Cohen Building & U.S. Courthouse

4th & Cooper Streets, Room 1050

Camden, New Jersey, 08101

Re: Civil Action Number: 07-2867 (NLH), MDL No 1850

Dear Honorable Hillman and all parties concerned,

We, the undersigned, ask that you review, and find merit for consideration to the following when making your final determination in the above referenced case.

First, the actions of the pet food companies stating the following is nothing short of blackmail - This was sent to me by my attorney from and regarding the pet food manufacturers, et al,; at present the only offer which Defendants have made is to waive their possible right to seek reimbursement of their legal costs against you in exchange for a voluntary dismissal with prejudice of your case against them. If you accept this offer of a voluntary dismissal, Defendants would waive their claim for costs against you, you would most likely not need to participate in future discovery or depositions in this case, and you would not owe our firms any money for the several million dollars of time and costs we have dedicated to this case. If you accept this option please send a REPLY EMAIL IMMEDIATELY with the words "You have my authority to negotiate a settlement on whatever terms you deem to be in my best interest including the possibility of a settlement with no monetary payment to me but which would shield me from any claim for costs from Defendants by my filing a voluntary dismissal in exchange for a waiver of costs."

To continue:

\* 24 million dollars is not but a small percentage that just 1 of the companies involved in the manufacturing of pet foods makes in 1 year, by selling products to us, the consumer. Menu Foods had a 60.3 million dollar profit last year, (documents attached).

- 5 pages of defendants "chipping in" to appease this settlement is absurd. (attached)

\* The CEO of Ralston Purina makes 7.5 million dollars per year, (document attached).

\* The corporate greed for raising profits that was the reasoning behind using cheaper ingredients that killed our companions.

\*The fact that however viewed by law, those "pets" were companion animals, and viewed as family members.

\* The wording of the food they sell us as healthy, and we, the consumer, trusted them on this, we now find contains euthanatized cats and dogs, as well as chemicals such as chofant that are known to cause cancer. These chemicals are hazardous materials, (documentation attached).

\* The word "Guaranteed" means nothing at all, except for the package replacement cost.

\* The irreparable physical, mental, emotional damage far surpasses the financial damages done. The 'out of pocket expenses' paid were not enough to save the lives of our furry friends. We would have paid anything to keep our companions alive.

\* The damage done to the caregivers of innocents who were left in the dark watching helplessly as our companions suffered and died in a traumatic way. There are no words to describe the suffering we had to helplessly watch our companions go through, when these companies had known for some time that there was a problem with the ingredients.

\* Jobs have been lost, homes lost, families broken, lives shattered because of this horrid ordeal. Post traumatic stress disorders, depression, some suicides; all because of pet food manufacturers greed.

\* Fact: the companies at fault down played the total effect in the numbers being reported of sick and dying animals for a very long time.

\* Fact: some of the companies "chipping in to this fund" still had the tainted food on their store shelves for months after the recall came public knowledge. Most stores not even notifying or alerting their customers as to the potential problem. Some cans of recalled foods were just relabeled.

\* More than half of the proposed 24 million will go to attorney's, Not to those of us who spent countless dollars trying to save our fur children. 24 million dollars for 2 countries of persons affected by this, is an insult. Persons who chose no legal representation are penalized the worst.

\* Arrests have been made in the mortgage companies scams. This case before you is a greater crime against humanity, falsely advertising nourishment and nutrition for our fur companions hiding the facts that cats and dogs are being fed to cats and dogs.

- Phenobarbital had to be replaced as the euthanasia drug, because so many animals had an immunity to this drug, because of the rendered down animals from the pounds being used as 'meat by products.

\* The used photo processing chemicals being used as 'vitamins supplements.' Fumaric acid as one of the "protein ingredients" that is used to coat the dry foods, especially cats food, is mainly used in paints and varnishes. (Document attached).

\* There is nothing nutritious in cat and dog food, and these companies are selling pet owners complete synthetic and depleted "whole food" garbage to the unknowing consumer at an enormous amount of money. (Average can of cat food is approx. \$1.19 per can)

\* As for the statement on the claim form "what was the value of your pet", how can a price be placed on a friend, a companion, and family member? How can \$900.00 be expected to erase the horrid memories of the pain and suffering we watched as our companions suffered so, as we were force feeding the same poison that made them sick, not knowing its contents, and that it was poison? How can \$900.00 erase the indescribable horrible memory of the look of the will to live on your companions face when they had to be put to sleep because their little bodies could not endure any longer? That is a memory I personally will never, ever forget, and will suffer over for the rest of my life.

All of the above was willful intent to deceive and defraud the consumer, and now; blackmail. I, on behalf of myself, and all affected parties, ask the Court, and Hon. Hillman, to view these actions as nothing less than crimes warranting criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law. Also, I/we ask, that not just future testing on pet foods be done, but pet food advertising be reviewed, and accountability for truth in advertising be upheld.

Please review the profits for the 5 plus pages of defendants, then make your decision of what settlement amount would be "fair" - 24 million for 2 countries worth of poisoned companions is not far.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this heartfelt matter.

Sincerely,

Deborah Hock  
Half Moon Bay, CA

Cc:  
Craig A. Hoover  
Hogan & Hartson  
555 Thirteenth Street  
Washington, DC 20004

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes.

Name: Mario Venegas Frias

Signature: Mario VF

City: 940 AV. KELLY State: HALF MOONBAY CA 94019

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Dolores J. Long Dolores J. Long

Signature: Dolores J. Long

City: HALF MOON BAY State: CALIFORNIA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Denise Rundle

Signature: Denise

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Carter Schwone

Signature: Carter Schwone

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Genie Bledsoe

Signature: Genie Bledsoe

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Mr. Robinson  
Signature: [Signature]  
City: Half Moon Bay State: CALIFORNIA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kathy Watts  
Signature: [Signature]  
City: Half Moon Bay State: CA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: WILLIAM DYSON  
Signature: [Signature]  
City: HALF MOON BAY State: CA 94019  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Deborah Hock  
Signature: [Signature]  
City: Half Moon Bay State: CA 94019  
Comments: Companions do NOT have replacement value -

Name: Sandi Wanzer  
Signature: [Signature]  
City: HMB State: CA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.


Name: MARLON J. MICANES

Signature: 

City: 740 2nd ave State: HALF MOON BAY CA 94019

Comments:

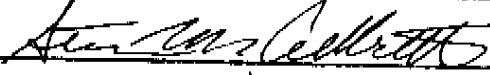
Name: CHRISTOPHER B SHELLEY

Signature: 

City: HALF MOON BAY State: CA 94019

Comments:

Name: Steve Culbreth

Signature: 

City: EL Granada State: Calif

Comments:


Name: Gary A Christensen

Signature: 

City: HUMBoldt State: Ca 94019

Comments: This was a Criminal ACT

Name: Stanley Traber

Signature: 

City: Santa Cruz State: CA

Comments:

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Amanda Grass

Signature: [Signature]

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jessie Gallegos

Signature: [Signature]

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jackie Cunningham

Signature: [Signature]

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Antonette Kinsella

Signature: [Signature]

City: Pescadero State: CA

Comments: if you let them get away with it - our kids will be next!

Name: BIRNA McMains

Signature: [Signature]

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: MICHAEL BRANDT

Signature: Michael Brandt

City: HMB State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: William Bingle

Signature: Wm Bingle

City: HALF MOON BAY State: C.A.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Ed Oberstella

Signature: Ed Oberstella

City: LA Honda CA State: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: William Ayres

Signature: W.K. Ayres

City: AMB State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Wayne Kroming

Signature: 101 Lakeside Dr. Hoff Menlo Park 94019 Ca.

City: My Company that I State: am responsible for

Comments: R.A. DeLuca Food Services Inc under U.S. DA & CA FDA

Regulations that we abide by to the letter of the mandated laws  
If and when a recall notice is issued we respond  
immediately. Thankfully at our plant this has not been a problem.



We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

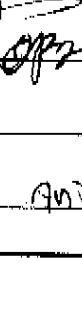
Name: Jose V. Lopez

Signature: 

City: Pescadero State: CA

Comments: Keep our animals happy

Name: D. BRISCOE

Signature: 

City: El Granada State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_


Name: MIC BURKE

Signature: 

City: EL GRANADA State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

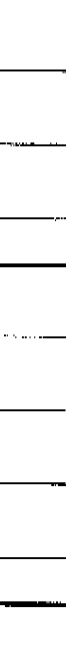
Name: DAVE RIDER

Signature: 

City: EL GRANADA State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Wendy Jardine

Signature: 

City: Concord State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: STEVEN P. GUARAGLIA

Signature: Steven P. Guaraglia

City: HALF MOON BAY, State: CALIF.

Comments: PETS ARE PEOPLE TOO!

Name: A. Neri

Signature: A. Neri

City: EL GRANADA State: CA. 94018

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Teresa Cunningham

Signature: Teresa Cunningham

City: EL GRANADA State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Joe Votta

Signature: Joe Votta

City: MENLO PARK. State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jessica Salisbury

Signature: Jessica Salisbury

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Marcel Gary

Signature: Marcel Gary

City: Redwood City State: CA

Comments: This is not worth eating

Name: David Brown

Signature: David Brown

City: HMB State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Sali Oylenger (Pharmacist)

Signature: S. Oylenger

City: HMB State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Robert Benberg

Signature: [Signature]

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: ANGELA VAN BUREN

Signature: Angela Van Buren

City: LA Honda State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Jim Salter

Signature: JIM SALTER

City: EL GRANADA State: CALIF.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Marie Drake

Signature: Marie Drake

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: ABuchanan ANDY BUCHANAN

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

City: HMB State: CALIFORNIA.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Ivette Ronquillo

Signature: Ivette Ronquillo

City: HMB State: CA.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jody Kelly

Signature: Jody Kelly

City: HMB State: Ca

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Alejandro Bonillas  
Signature: Alejandro Bonillas  
City: San Francisco State: CA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: John T. Minaidis  
Signature: John T. Minaidis  
City: HMB State: CA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Tom Minaidis  
Signature: Tom Minaidis  
City: H.M.B. State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Sonia Jha  
Signature: Sonia Jha  
City: Redwood City State: CA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Hedger Lee  
Signature: Hedger Lee  
City: Hill View City State: CA 94019  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: ANDRES VESQUEZ

Signature: Andres V.

City: HALF MOON BAY State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Bridget O'Connell

Signature: Bridget O'Connell

City: Mass Beach State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Chuck Johnson

Signature: Chuck Johnson

City: LA Honda State: ca

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Gary Richardson

Signature: Gary Richardson

City: Pescadero State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

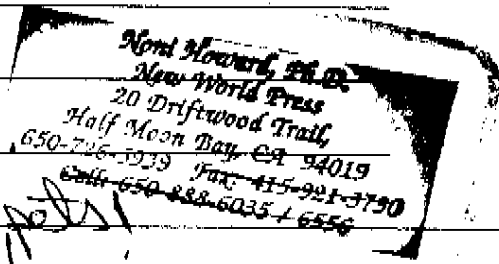
Name: DR. Nani Howard

Signature: Dr. Nani Howard

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments: Stop poisoning our pets!

This is CRIMINAL!



We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Carol Gordon - McNally

Signature: Carol Gordon - McNally

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments:

Name: Dany Hart

Signature: Dany Hart

City: Sonnyvale State: CA

Comments:

Name: Angela Dunsmore

Signature: Angela Dunsmore

City: Half Moon Bay State: CA

Comments:

Name: Victoria Dunsmore

Signature: Victoria Dunsmore

City: Half Moon Bay State: Calif

Comments:

Name: John Hudson

Signature: John Hudson

City: Half Moon Bay State: CALIF

Comments:

**We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hillman needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.**

Name: F. Cloukedis

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

City: Montana State: CA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Dorothy Heffinger

Signature: Dorothy Heffinger

City: Independence State: VA 24348

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jilaine Thompson

Signature: Jilaine Thompson

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: my dog got very sick on recalled dog food - thank goodness not next bad.

Name: Vickie Jones

Signature: Vickie Jones

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: My wif & I love dogs & cats are my children & we need to fight for their rights

Name: Linda Madford-Goad

Signature: Linda Madford-Goad

City: Hillsville State: VA 24343

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Nelle Burnett

Signature: Nelle Burnett

City: Galax State: VA 24333

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Joyce Lester

Signature: Joyce Lester

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: Pets are like your family, lets keep them Healthy.

Name: Dona Edwards

Signature: Dona Edwards

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Glenda Forester

Signature: Glenda Forester

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: James Brewer

Signature: James Brewer

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Don Dumate

Signature: Don Dumate

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: LINDA K Burnett

Signature: Linda K Burnett

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: I witnessed what this tainted food did to a healthy animal!

Name: Jerry Spencer

Signature: Jerry Spencer

City: Math of Water State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Debbie Harrison

Signature: Debbie Harrison

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: Animals + pets are our babies. They have us no matter what.

Name: PAUL WART

Signature: Paul W

City: Galax State: VA.

Comments: I love my PETS. PLEASE KEEP PETS SAFE

Name: Susi Good

Signature: Susi Good

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>MAN</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Denise L. Easter

Signature: Denise L. Easter

City: Fries State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Michael R. Jones

Signature: Michael R. Jones

City: Fries State: V. U.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: C. J. Vaughan

Signature: C. J. Vaughan

City: FRIES State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Casalyne Phillips

Signature: Casalyne Phillips

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Torri Pettigrew

Signature: Torri Pettigrew

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Billy Shore

Signature: Billy Shore

City: Centex State: Virginia

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Shane White

Signature: Shane White

City: Galax State: Virginia

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Leona Brewer

Signature: Leona Brewer

City: Mount Airy, NC State: NC

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Gail Catron

Signature: Gail Catron

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Tammy Williams

Signature: Tammy Williams

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Kim Shopshire

Signature: [Signature]

City: Laurel Fork State: Va.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Ronnie Poe

Signature: Ronnie Poe

City: Daloy State: Va.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Robin Bidsaul

Signature: Rob. Bidsaul

City: GALAXY State: VIRGINIA

Comments: I LOVE MY ANIMALS - JUST LIKE MY CHILDREN

Name: Mike Bryant

Signature: [Signature]

City: Galax State: VA.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Joanna McKenzie

Signature: [Signature]

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Cathleen Weather

Signature: Cathleen Weather

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Dorlene Wells

Signature: Dorlene Wells

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Virginia Mayberry

Signature: Virginia Mayberry

City: Hillsville State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: RICKIE PRYNE

Signature: Rickie Pryne

City: Woodtown State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kelly Russell

Signature: KM Russell

City: Hillsville State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Leslie Chappell

Signature: Leslie Chappell

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Joan R. My

Signature: [Signature]

City: Spencer State: NC

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Laura LaRue

Signature: Laura LaRue

City: Fries State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Liz Ferguson

Signature: Liz Ferguson

City: Woodlawn State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Oddy Bunham

Signature: Oddy L Bunham

City: Fries State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_



We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Carolyn Worrell

Signature: Carolyn Worrell

City: Hillsville State: Va.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Mary Jane Griffin

Signature: Mary Jane Griffin

City: Galax State: VA.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: GENNY GRIFFIN

Signature: Genny Griffin

City: Galax State: Va.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

F.R.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: Frances Russell

City: Galax State: Va.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Fredie Russell

Signature: Fredie Russell

City: 1011 G. A. R. Rd. GALAX State: VA. 24333

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Elden Burris

Signature: Elden Burris

City: Fries State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Melodie Huffman

Signature: Melodie Huffman

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Laddie Edwards

Signature: Laddie Edwards

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Patty Hill

Signature: Patty Hill

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Ashley Linville

Signature: Ashley Linville

City: Hillsville State: VA

Comments: It is sad to think that people would be proud to work for companies that are poisoning our beloved friends. Why would anyone want to harm such wonderful creatures that the Lord put here to be our companions. Please do something to help save the precious lives of our pets.

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Marlene Austin

Signature: Marlene Austin

City: Galax, State: Va.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Rebecca Hendrick

Signature: Rebecca Hendrick

City: Blacksville State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Cindy Diamond

Signature: Cindy Diamond

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:  Pamela Owen

Signature: Pamela Owen

City: Independence State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Freddy Bullion

Signature: Freddy Bullion

City: Foster Falls State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Carolyn J. Russell

Signature: Carolyn J. Russell

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Melissa Russell

Signature: Melissa Russell

City: Fancy Gap State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Timmy Russell

Signature: Timothy Russell

City: Fancy Gap State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Eddie Russell

Signature: James E. Russell

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Patsy Hill

Signature: Patsy Hill

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Faye Parish

Signature: Faye Parish

City: Woodtown State: VA 24381

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kim Welp

Signature: Kim Welp

City: Woodtown State: VA 24381

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Melanie Frost

Signature: Melanie Frost

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kimberly Roberts

Signature: Kimberly Roberts

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jaime Peddy

Signature: Jaime A Peddy

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>max</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Cornie Chapin

Signature: Cornie Chapin

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jayce James

Signature: Jayce James

City: Hillsville State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: James Bebat

Signature: James Bebat

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: T.J. McGrady

Signature: Taylor J. McGrady

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Tyler McGrady

Signature: Tyler McGrady

City: Galax State: VA

Comments: Galax

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill <sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Susan Branscome  
Signature: Susan Branscome  
City: Barren Springs State: VA  
Comments: Save Our Pets!

Name: Ethel Burnette  
Signature: Ethel Burnette  
City: Galax State: VA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jason FELT  
Signature: J. Felt  
City: Galax State: VA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Mike Smith  
Signature: Mike Smith  
City: Galax State: VA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Emma Underwood  
Signature: Emma Underwood  
City: Fries State: VA  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Pam Payne

Signature: Pam Payne

City: Galax State: VA 24333

Comments:

Name: Luba Shaffner

Signature: Luba Shaffner

City: Fries State: VA 24330

Comments:

Name: Bobby Elliott

Signature: Bobby Elliott

City: Fries State: VA 24330

Comments: Protect our pets. Our boxer passed away from the terrible crime.

Name: Donna Elliott

Signature: Donna Elliott

City: Fries State: VA 24330

Comments: Hold these companies & their workers accountable. We lost a very special member of our family, our boxer Abby, our lives have been changed forever. This could have and should have been avoided. The negligence is unacceptable. It is

Name: pure murder of our pets. Change the laws and protect

Signature: our pets and our families. If it were a friend, companion,

City: and loved one, how would you feel if they were

Comments: poisoned. The sad thing about it is that it happened and we cannot bring our Abby back, but we will fight to change the laws to save our pets.

the laws to save our pets.



We the undersigned agree that Federal Judge, Hon. Hill<sup>man</sup> needs to review, and make changes to the proposed Pet Food settlement agreement, and initiate changes that will hold pet food manufactures accountable.

Name: Jimmy Griffin

Signature: Jimmy Griffin

City: Hillsville State: VA

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Betty Griffin

Signature: Betty Griffin

City: Hillsville State: Virginia 24381

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Holli Russell

Signature: Holli Russell

City: Galax State: Va

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Fred Elliott

Signature: Fred Elliott

City: Fries State: Virginia

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Michael Griffin

Signature: Michael Griffin

City: Woodlawn State: Va

Comments: God bless and save our pets.

## Stopping Corporate Crime

### Congressman Pete Visclosky

*Proudly Representing Indiana's 1st Congressional District*

2256 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
TELE: 202-225-2461

701 E. 83rd Ave., #9  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
TELE: 219-795-1844

<http://www.house.gov/visclosky>

### *We Must Act Now To Restore Corporate Responsibility*

Like millions of Americans, I am outraged by the criminal misconduct of corporate leaders who have abused their fiduciary responsibilities, ruined the lives of thousands of people, and weakened our economy. Virtually every day, we hear about more abuses, and I am actively working with my colleagues in Congress to stop them. In the interim, if executives are proven guilty of criminal activity, they should face mandatory jail sentences without parole, and their companies should be forced to make restitution.

In his first speech as chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Harvey L. Pitt told an audience of auditors that the SEC would be a "kinder and gentler place for accountants." When the Enron situation was discovered, some public officials said that it was an isolated case, and that the federal government did not need to get involved.

With the recent revelations about companies like Global Crossing, Halliburton, Bristol-Myers Squibb, and WorldCom, it is now clear that a culture of abuse must be changed. These deceitful practices not only injure employees and investors, who lose jobs and savings, but they hurt all Americans - by eroding the public's trust in the free-enterprise system.

I am also angry that many companies are moving their corporate headquarters abroad to keep from paying taxes, particularly when we are at war and our economy is struggling. People who abandon our country in wartime and plant their flag on foreign soil should not be allowed to profit at the expense of American taxpayers.

To put an end to this practice, I voted for an amendment offered by Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Rep. David Obey (D-Wisconsin), and Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Connecticut) in the Appropriations Committee that would prohibit the government from awarding contracts to companies that use loopholes to move overseas and avoid U.S. taxes.

Additionally, I am currently supporting other legislation to protect workers and investors, and to force corporations to pay their fair share of taxes. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3884, the Corporate Patriot Enforcement Act, offered by my colleague Richard Neal (D-Massachusetts). It would end corporate tax havens like the one used by Tyco International, a New Hampshire-based company that avoided paying \$400 million in taxes last year by incorporating in Bermuda.

During World War II, then-Senator Harry Truman cracked down on profiteering by corporations, and we need the same kind of bold action today. It is time to make corporate CEOs accountable, and force them to play by the rules like the rest of Americans do. To do that, I support the following measures:

***Imposing tough criminal penalties for securities fraud:*** Executives who defraud their shareholders should go to jail for at least ten years, without any possibility of parole.

***Imposing criminal penalties for altering, destroying, or failing to maintain documents:*** Individuals who destroy evidence to hamper criminal investigations should face at least five years in jail, without any possibility of parole. The same sentence should be given to those who knowingly direct or allow others to destroy evidence.

***Making sure CEOs pay their fair share when companies relocate overseas:*** This measure would require corporate executives to pay capital gains tax on the exchange of their stock when their companies incorporate overseas for tax purposes. Currently, only shareholders are required to do so.

***Ensuring CEOs don't profit when workers lose:*** I support taxing the untaxed compensation benefits of corporate executives if there are arrangements designed to protect their benefits in case of corporate bankruptcy or financial distress. Workers do not have these protections.

***Limiting "Golden Parachutes":*** I support imposing an excise tax on severance packages of executives who leave behind plummeting shareholder value or companies in bankruptcy proceedings.

***Banning CEOs from receiving insider company loans:*** No one should be allowed to profit from shady deals at the expense of others. I support legislation to ban these corporate giveaways that harm corporations, their employees, and their investors by draining valuable assets.

In short, I believe that we must treat corrupt executives like the criminals they are. Like drug kingpins, leading officers of corporations that deceive their shareholders and the public should face lengthy, mandatory jail sentences. No company, nor corporate executives, should be allowed to save themselves at the expense of their employees and investors.

In order to restore consumer confidence and rebuild our economy, we must restore consumer trust. Congress must act now to punish the guilty, and close the legal loopholes that allow honest Americans to be taken advantage of by corporate predators.

Be assured that I will do everything I can to promote corporate responsibility and punish business executives who defraud Americans. It is morally wrong to commit these unethical acts, particularly when the nation is at war and the economy is slumping.

---

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## **Menu Foods continues to claw its way back; volume rises for second quarter in a row**

The Canadian Press

August 13, 2008 - 3:17 p.m.

TORONTO - Menu Foods Income Fund (TSX.MEW.UN) continues to claw its way back from high-profile recalls of its pet food products after reporting volume at its continuing business increased for a second consecutive quarter and that it earned a small profit.

The Toronto company reported second quarter net income of \$735,000, compared with a \$3.6-million loss a year earlier.

Revenue grew to \$60.3 million compared to \$47.2 million last year, when it was reeling from the fallout from a series of recalls after a number of pets died due to contaminated ingredients made to use some of its products.

"As we began 2008, we recognized that this would be a year of rebuilding for Menu. I am pleased to report that the good progress made against this objective in the first quarter of 2008 continued in the quarter ended June 30, 2008," Menu chief executive Paul Henderson said in a message to the fund's unitholders.

"While the 2007 recall is now largely behind us, its impact on our profitability and on our leverage ratios will be felt for some time to come."

Under its agreement with lenders, the fund is prevented from paying distributions to its unitholders until leverage ratio for a 12-month period falls below 3.0. The ratio for the 12-months ended June 30 was 3.52.

Volume from the fund's continuing business increased by 6.3 per cent as compared to the first quarter of 2008. This increase followed an increase of 12.6 per cent realized in the first quarter of 2008, as compared to the fourth quarter of 2007.

Last year, more than 150 brands of pet food were recalled after dog and cat owners were panicked by news that products from the biggest North American maker of store-brand pet food had been tainted by Chinese-supplied wheat gluten laced with poisonous melamine.

CLOSE WINDOW >>>

1998 McGinnis, W Patrick

Chief Executive Officer; salary: 7.5 m

[Menu: Foods (Class Action) | Digest Number 10791 - Yahoo! Mail

<http://us.mc587.mail.yahoo.com/mc/showMessage?fid=Inbox&sort=...>

IN THIS GROUP, ITS FILES AND DATA BASES, YOU CAN SEE  
 SOME OF THE STATISTICS, READ THE HEARTBREAK +  
 ANGUISH, AND FEEL THE TEARS. THESE ARE + WERE  
 OUR ONLY SUPPORT DURING THIS LIFE CHANGING ORDEAL.

2a. **Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods**

Posted by: "sturmie@bellsouth.net" [sturmie@bellsouth.net](mailto:sturmie@bellsouth.net) [taluru](mailto:taluru)  
 Mon Sep 8, 2008 6:09 am (PDT)

FYI, everybody. Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods:

<http://www.consumer-affairs.com/pets/canidae.html>

Please circulate and cross-post widely.

Erich Trapp

-

puppy up!

<http://2dogs2000miles.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.2dogs2000miles.org>

Helping Luke Robinson walk from  
 Austin to Boston with his two Great  
 Pyreneces Dogs. The funds raised  
 from the walk will finance the  
 first ever nationwide  
 epidemiological canine cancer  
 study.

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

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2b. **Re: Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods**

Posted by: "sdratson@comcast.net" [sdratson@comcast.net](mailto:sdratson@comcast.net) [sandy@atson](mailto:sandy@atson)  
 Mon Sep 8, 2008 8:51 am (PDT)

I am done with dog food companies... I can't take it. I am making Shadow her  
 food with the help of my vet and I will NEVER EVER trust a dog food company  
 again.

I had been giving Shadow Canidae and I found out before I finished the good  
 batch. I have to tell you I could not have gone through this nightmare again.

Will the government ever help us to protect our babies or is this a long road to  
 nowhere?

Sorry for the vent. Needing to get it out.  
 Sandy

----- Original message -----

From: [sturmie@bellsouth.net](mailto:sturmie@bellsouth.net)

>  
>  
> FYI, everybody. Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods:  
> <http://www.consumer-affairs.com/pets/canidae.html>  
> Please circulate and cross-post widely.

> Erich Trapp

>  
>  
>  
> --

> puppy up!

> <http://2dogs2000miles.blogspot.com/>  
> <http://www.2dogs2000Miles.org>

>  
>  
> Helping Luke Robinson walk from  
> Austin to Boston with his two Great  
> Pyrenees Dogs. The funds raised  
> from the walk will finance the  
> first ever nationwide  
> epidemiological canine cancer  
> study.

> [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

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2. **Re: Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods**

Posted by: "Rita Bolinger" [rtbolinger@yahoo.com](mailto:rtbolinger@yahoo.com) [rtbolinger](mailto:rtbolinger)  
Mon Sep 8, 2008 10:02 am (PDT)

The answer is no. The government could care less about our pets, it is all about the "big bucks". I'm sure they are given plenty by the PET FOOD company lobbyists to turn the other way and make way for their products no matter what. The answer is to not buy their products. We can fix better food at home and have a healthy happy pet. I lost my "Lucky" because of Poisoned food and Tootsie had a major infection and a costly surgery. She now has oatmeal with me in the morning and in the evening I feed her human food with supplements added. She has never been healthier.

Good luck to all of you who have had to watch your pets suffer and to those of us who have had to say goodbye before we should have.  
Let's take what we can get from the settlement and not support these ba\_\_\_\_\_ds

ever again!!!! WE are the ones who need to educate others about the "dangers" and boycott commercial pet foods. Tell every pet owner that you know! Thanks for caring!!!

-- On Mon, 9/8/08, [sdratson@comcast.net](mailto:sdratson@comcast.net) <[sdratson@comcast.net](mailto:sdratson@comcast.net)> wrote:

From: [sdratson@comcast.net](mailto:sdratson@comcast.net) <[sdratson@comcast.net](mailto:sdratson@comcast.net)>  
Subject: Re: [MenuFoodsClassAction] Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods  
To: [MenuFoodsClassAction@yahoo.com](mailto:MenuFoodsClassAction@yahoo.com)  
Date: Monday, September 8, 2008, 9:51 AM

I am done with dog food companies... I can't take it. I am making Shadow her food with the help of my vet and I will NEVER EVER trust a dog food company again.

I had been giving Shadow Canidae and I found out before I finished the good batch. I have to tell you I could not have gone through this nightmare again.

Will the government ever help us to protect our babies or is this a long road to nowhere?

Sorry for the vent. Needing to get it out.  
Sandy

----- Original message -----

From: [sturmie@bellsouth.net](mailto:sturmie@bellsouth.net)

- >
- >
- > FYI, everybody. Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods:
- > <http://www.consumeraffairs.com/pets/canidae.html>
- > Please circulate and cross-post widely.
- >
- > Erich Trapp
- >
- >
- >
- > --
- > puppy up!
- >
- > <http://2dogs2000miles.blogspot.com/>
- > <http://www.2Dogs2000Miles.org>
- >
- >
- > Helping Luke Robinson walk from
- > Austin to Boston with his two Great
- > Pyrenees Dogs. The funds raised
- > from the walk will finance the
- > first ever nationwide
- > epidemiological canine cancer
- > study.
- >
- >
- > [Non-text portions of this message have been removed]
- >



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2d. **Re: Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods**

Posted by: "Jan Hoadley" [write\\_nowbiz@yahoo.com](mailto:write_nowbiz@yahoo.com) [write\\_nowbiz](mailto:write_nowbiz@yahoo.com)  
Mon Sep 8, 2008 10:15 am (PDT)

Thus far it seems I'm posting to myself posting here but this one needles. The government cannot and will not protect US let alone our pets. WE have to research and make decisions ourselves regarding our food supply. There is no one that will stand up for us - we have to do it ourselves. And the only thing that they understand is money. When people stop buying it and those record profits turn into losses then and only then will corporate places care and by then the market is gone.

Until then we as owners are on our own both in choosing what to feed our dogs as well as feeding us - and I truly believe both food supplies are in danger.

Jan

JanH - AL  
[www.writenowbiz.com](http://www.writenowbiz.com)  
<http://www.ganga.com/janH106/>  
[http://www.associat-edcontent.com/user/15473/jan\\_hoadley.html](http://www.associat-edcontent.com/user/15473/jan_hoadley.html)

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2e. **Re: Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods**

Posted by: "motherm2" [motherm2@yahoo.com](mailto:motherm2@yahoo.com) [motherm2](mailto:motherm2@yahoo.com)  
Mon Sep 8, 2008 1:24 pm (PDT)

I too am unhappy finding out about ALL the dog food problems and decided to make my own for my precious kiddo. I thought it was going to be a tedious job but was done in a short time using a food processor. Stewed a whole chicken in chicken broth. Removed everything that was edible for a human and while processing the meat I had rice and carrots cooking in the broth. Mixed it all together and there is enough for a week. Will get her vitamins to add to it. So once a week, or even double the recipe and freeze but, I will make it so there will

be absolutely no canned dog food for her again. She suffered enough eating Menu's products. Now why can't we just get the list of bad dry dog foods instead of having to take a mini course????? Or does someone have a listing?

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2. **Re: Recent complaints about Canidae dog foods**

Posted by: "Jan Hoadley" [write\\_nowbiz@yahoo.com](mailto:write_nowbiz@yahoo.com) [write\\_nowbiz](#)  
Mon Sep 8, 2008 1:38 pm (PDT)

>> Now why can't we just get the list of bad dry dog foods instead of having to take a mini course????? Or does someone have a listing?

I don't trust any of them. I've had dogs with reactions and several died on a food from Sunshine, Hunter Special. They're 'best food'. My dogs got dry food and it did not protect them.

I lost Laddie in July after a foil packet of Little Champions - which he didn't normally get but we were on the road.

Of course nothing was wrong with the dry food - they just look pregnant after eating it, projectile vomit and as I said several died. Since returning that food none have looked pregnant or vomited up their meal. But there's 'nothing wrong' with it.

I hate any commercial food and the faster we can get away from it the better.  
Jan

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\*All views or thoughts of this member are theirs alone and doesn't reflect the views of MenuFoodsClassAction group. Any legal advice given should be consulted with an attorney before making a decision.

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[www.petco.com](http://www.petco.com)

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## Palatability enhancers for pet food and methods of manufacture

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USPTO Application #: 20080085350

Title: Palatability enhancers for pet food and methods of manufacture

Abstract: A method for producing a palatability enhancer for a companion animal food product, wherein the method includes combining at least one aroma chemical selected from 2-methylfuran, 2-methylpyrrole, 2-methyl-thiophene and dimethyl disulfide with an animal or vegetarian digest composition. Companion animal food products containing the palatability enhancer are also disclosed. (end of abstract)

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Agent: Synnsvædt Lechner & Woodbridge LLP - Princeton, NJ, US

Inventors: Zulin Shi, Hsi-Wen Chin, Rob J. Dull, Jim C. Loto

USPTO Application #: 20080085350 - Class: 426.53.5000 (USPTO)

Related Patent Categories: [Food Or Edible Material Processes, Compositions, And Products](#), [Products Per Se, Or Processes Of Preparing Or Treating Compositions Involving Chemical Reaction By Addition, Combining Diverse Food Material, Or Permanent Additive](#), [Flavor Per Se, Or Comprising Flavor Or Flavor Improver Of Identifiable Organic Chemical Constitution, Sulfur Compounds](#)

The Patent Description & Claims data below is from USPTO Patent Application 20080085350.

Brief Patent Description - [Full Patent Description](#) - [Patent Application Claims](#) - [Monitor Keywords](#)

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] The present application claims priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. section 119(e) of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/784,778, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] This invention is directed to a palatability enhancer for pet food and a method of its manufacture. Particularly, this invention relates to a palatability enhancer providing a savory flavor such as meat. More particularly, this invention relates to a process for improving the palatability of pet foods of either low or high moisture content by enhancing the flavor to increase its acceptability to cats and dogs.

[0003] It should be understood that the expression "dry pet food" as used herein includes foods having a low moisture content. For example, dry pet food may contain less than about 20% moisture so that the free water content is generally not sufficient to support the growth of microorganisms. High moisture content pet food is intended to include the semi moist and canned types of foods. The invention is applicable to all types, but is particularly significant with dry foods which often are least appealing to domestic animals.

[0004] Advantages associated with dry pet foods are that they are generally more nutritious, on an equal weight basis, require less expensive packaging, and are more convenient to use than moist foods. However, domestic animals are often quite particular in their tastes and, therefore, improving palatability significantly improves the desirability of a dry food. To improve taste, a variety of materials have been utilized to coat the surface and/or are mixed with the dry constituents to enhance the flavor. For example, phosphoric acid has been coated onto the surface of a dry cat food as a palatability enhancer. More specifically, U.S. Pat. No. 3,679,429 discloses a method for improving palatability of dry cat food by coating pellets of food with fat and palatability enhancing acids such as phosphoric or citric.

[0005] Palatability of dry pet foods may also be enhanced by the application of flavors. As an example, flavors are described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,186,964 as meat and cheese flavorings.

[0006] However, the use of meat or cheese flavoring is not always easy to accomplish. One complication in developing flavorants and palatability enhancers for pets is unpredictability. Moreover, flavorants which work effective with humans do not often work as effectively with pets. Similarly, a flavorant which is effective with one species may not work as well with a different animal group. Furthermore, pets are unable to express their preferences in an effective manner. Accordingly, palatability testing must be employed.

[0007] One primary area of focus has been to provide pet foods with a savory meat flavor. In fact, this effort exists simultaneously with respect to flavoring human foods. In animals, this has typically been accomplished using poultry viscera, heart and liver digests. However, this flavorant system is somewhat undesirable because it cannot meet with the increasing demand for palatability of pet foods, especially dry pet foods.

[0008] In humans, artificial meat flavorants have been investigated as demonstrated in U.S. Pat. No. 5,039,543

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wherein it is disclosed that phospholipids, create a desirable meat aroma. Specifically, a flavorant stated to have a savory meat aroma and flavor is comprised of a phospholipid of animal origin and a sulfur containing compound which is reactive with the phospholipid. Similarly, in U.S. Pat. No. 4,045,587, herein incorporated by reference, a meat flavorant comprised generally of a cyclic carbonyl compound is disclosed. Further discussion of artificial meat flavors is provided in U.S. Pat. No. 3,892,878, herein incorporated by reference, wherein it is stated that certain alkane thiols and alkane mercapto sulfides alter the flavor of foodstuff to provide a roasted meat taste for humans.

[0009] Interestingly, notwithstanding the alleged success of these various artificial meat flavors, many human foods still rely on a combination of natural flavors and yeast. Furthermore, there has been no successful development of an artificial meat flavorant which has demonstrated success in meeting the particular and unique palatability demands of domestic animals.

[0010] Therefore, it would be desirable in the art of animal feed, to have available a meat flavorant which is easily storable, preservable and relatively inexpensive yet provides a savory meat-type flavor.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0011] This need is met by the present invention.

[0012] A method for producing a palatability enhancer for a companion animal food product is presented. The method includes combining at least one aroma chemical selected from 2-methylfuran, 2-methylpyrrole, 2-methyl-thiophene and dimethyl disulfide with an animal or vegetarian digest composition. In one embodiment, the method further includes (a) combining at least one reducing sugar with said at least one aroma chemical and said digest composition to form a mixture; and (b) heating the mixture to initiate a reaction process. In another embodiment, the mixture further includes at least one reducing sugar selected from xylose, rhamnose, glucose, fructose, and ribose. An additional embodiment includes adding at least one sulfur-containing compound selected from cysteine, cystine, glutathione, methionine, thiamine, sodium sulfide, and ammonium sulfide to the mixture.

[0013] In one embodiment, the aroma chemical is added to the mixture prior to or following heating. In another embodiment, the mixture is heated to between about 60.degree. C. and about 180.degree. C. In yet another embodiment, mixture is heated to between about 90.degree. C. and about 130.degree. C.

[0014] In one embodiment, the mixture is heated for a period of about 1 minute to about 4 days. In another embodiment, the reaction process is performed at a pH of between 2.5 and 10. In yet another embodiment, the reaction process is performed at a pH of between 6 and 9.

[0015] In another embodiment, the method further includes applying the palatability enhancer to a pork base, a chicken base, a vegetable base, a fish base, or a mixture thereof. In a further embodiment, the animal digest composition includes viscera selected from pork viscera, chicken viscera, and a combination thereof.

[0016] An additional embodiment further includes combining the palatability enhancer with a basal composition containing organosulfite salts formed by contacting unsaturated fatty acids that oxidize to form aldehydes or ketones in the basal composition with a source of bisulfite anions.

[0017] In yet another embodiment, the method further includes extruding the palatability enhancer with a basal composition to form a dry or semi-dry kibble. Another embodiment includes applying the palatability enhancer to the surface of a kibble after the kibble is extruded.

[0018] Also provided is a method for improving the palatability of a cooked moist companion animal food product wherein the food product is contacted with the palatability enhancer. In one embodiment, the palatability enhancer is contacted with said food product prior to cooking.

[0019] In another embodiment, the food product includes an additional palatability enhancing composition. In yet another embodiment, the additional palatability enhancing composition includes a palatability enhancing quantity of one or more compounds selected from pyrophosphoric acid, polyphosphoric acid salts, phosphoric acid, phosphoric acid salts, acid tripolyphosphate, tripolyphosphate salts, acid hexapolyphosphate, hexapolyphosphate salts, citric acid, citric acid salts, tartaric acid, tartaric acid salts, fumaric acid, fumaric acid salts, lactic acid, lactic acid salts, acetic acid, acetic acid salts, formic acid, formic acid salts, hexamic acid and hexamic acid salts.

[0020] In one embodiment, the food product includes a food-grade raw meat or meat by-product. In another embodiment, the meat or meat by-product is selected from meat and meat by-products derived from beef, pork, sheep, lamb, poultry, duck, tuna, salmon, cod, whitefish and shrimp.

[0021] In yet another embodiment, the food product includes an animal or vegetable fat or oil.

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Previous Patent Application:

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Next Patent Application:

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Industry Class:

[Food or edible material: processes, compositions, and products](#)

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Application	Use
<a href="#">Unsaturated Polyester Resins</a>	Propylene glycol is the preferred glycol for manufacturing high-performance unsaturated polyester resins for many thermoset composite applications. <a href="#">Propylene Glycol Industrial Grade (PGI)</a> is an appropriate product for this application.
<a href="#">Urethanes</a>	Glycols such as <a href="#">Propylene Glycol Industrial Grade (PGI)</a> , <a href="#">Dipropylene glycol Regular Grade (DPG)</a> and <a href="#">Tripropylene Glycol Regular Grade (TPG)</a> can be used as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiators for urethane polyol synthesis from epoxides</li> <li>• The polyol itself in some polyurethane foam systems</li> <li>• A component for polyurethane/urea elastomers</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Coolants and Antifreeze</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol Industrial Grade (PGI)</a> is often used as an active ingredient in engine coolants and antifreeze because of its low mammalian toxicity, low flammability, excellent heat transfer properties and other benefits.
<a href="#">Aircraft Deicing Fluid</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol Industrial Grade (PGI)</a> is an excellent choice as the base fluid for aircraft deicing formulations due to its low freezing point, low toxicity, biodegradability, ease of handling, low corrosive nature to metals and low flammability.
<a href="#">Hydraulic and brake fluid</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol Industrial Grade (PGI)</a> is used in the production of polyglycols for use in hydraulic and brake systems to provide lubricity and anti-freezing protection, and to help reduce swelling of rubber parts.
<a href="#">Heat Transfer Fluids</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol USP/EP (PG USP/EP)</a> , with a suitable inhibitor package, makes an excellent choice for use as a heat transfer fluid in applications where contact with potable water, food or beverages might occur. Its low toxicity, low freezing point and high boiling point make it uniquely applicable for use in such applications.
<a href="#">Fragrance, Cosmetics and Personal Care</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol USP/EP (PG USP/EP)</a> , <a href="#">Dipropylene Glycol I.C.F. (DPG I.C.F.)</a> and <a href="#">Tripropylene Glycol Regular Grade (TPG)</a> are premium, high-purity products, with extensive applications in the fragrance, cosmetics and personal care industry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solvents, carriers, emollients, dispersants, coupling agents and co-emulsifiers, emulsion stabilizers or viscosity modifiers</li> <li>• Humectants, due to their hygroscopic nature and ability to attract and hold water</li> <li>• Preservatives, due to inherent antimicrobial activity against a wide range of bacterial and fungal species</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Food and Flavorings</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol USP/EP (PG USP/EP)</a> is used as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Humectant and stabilizer (in prepared fruits, vegetables and bakery goods)</li> <li>• Solvent in flavor solutions and extractions (and in food additives, such as colors, antioxidants, enzymes and emulsifiers)</li> <li>• Plasticizer and softening agent for items such as cork seals</li> <li>• Heat transfer fluids for food and beverage chilling and freezing applications</li> <li>• Solvent for printing inks used in food packaging</li> <li>• Equipment cleaner, to remove contamination from food processing equipment</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Pet Food/Animal Feed</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol USP/EP (PG USP/EP)</a> has a "generally recognized as safe" (GRAS) designation for pet food** and animal feed uses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solvent</li> <li>• Stabilizer</li> <li>• Preservative</li> <li>• Energy source</li> <li>• Humectant for moist feeds</li> <li>• Dust control agent for dry feed ingredients</li> <li>• Wetting agent for molasses</li> <li>• Lowers freezing temperature of feed</li> <li>• Preventative for ketosis</li> </ul>
	**Excluding cat food, see 21CFR582.1688
<a href="#">Pharmaceutical</a>	<a href="#">Propylene Glycol USP/EP (PG USP/EP)</a> is used in pharmaceutical products as an excipient (non-active ingredient or starting material) or solvent in oral, topical and injectable drug products.
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## choline chloride

main components: choline chloride is a granule powder combining the 70% choline chloride solution with the corn core. It is of good fluidity and hygroscopicity.

choline chloride explanation: This product is mainly used to stimulate the growth of the domestic animals, boosting up the body's immunity function. It has prominence effects on improving the quality and quantity of egg and meat. The many years' application shows that the product is the necessary additive of the domestic animals' foodstuff. Choline is one of the vitamins, and is the main components of lecithin. The young poultry is not of the ability of synthesizing choline. All the necessity relies on the supply of food. Though food in nature is not lacking of the choline, the applying of the choline chloride will guarantee the rapid growth of the animals

choline chloride usage: Choline is necessary for chicken (the content is extremely low in the grist), for it can synthesize amino acid and lecithin then to be sent to the inner body of the chickens, and prevent from the accumulation of fat in liver and kidney, accelerate the growth of the chickens, and improve the laying rate and hatchability. Lacking of the choline in the foodstuff, will lead to the hypogenesis, coarseness of leather, chondrify, feebleness and illability of mink, pig, rabbit, cow, etc. Adding choline in the bait of all kinds of fish and shrimp, the growth of fish and shrimp will be accelerated, then high yielding will be obtained.

choline chloride recommended adding amount: Generally, 1kg should be added into per 1000kg foodstuff. The amount should be increased for the young poultry. Take the circumstance into consideration.

choline chloride note: This product is of extremely hygroscopicity, closely protect in the dry place.

ii

index	Choline Chloride (liquid)	
Contents	Y70%	Y75%
PH	6.5-8.0	
Ethylene Glycol (%)	U0.50	
Trimethylamine	U0.10	
Burn-out Waste materials (%)	U0.20	
Heavy METAL (%)	U0.002	

index	Choline Chloride (carrier corn)	
contents	Y50%	Y60%
Loss on heating	U4%	
Thin (20 sieves)	About 90%Min.	

ii

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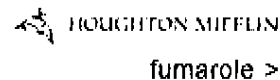
**NOUN:**

An organic acid, C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, found in various plants and produced synthetically and used mainly in resins, paints, varnishes, and inks.

**ETYMOLOGY:**

From New Latin *Fūmāria*, *genus of herbaceous plants* (from Late Latin *fūmāria*, *funitory*, from Latin *fūmū*, *smoke*) + **-ic**

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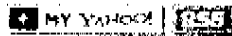


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The present invention relates to a product of reaction between an amino functional polymer comprising at least one primary and/or secondary amine and one or more ...

[www.freepatentsonline.com/6699823.html](http://www.freepatentsonline.com/6699823.html) - 173k - [Cached](#)[Detergent compositions comprising an oxygenase enzyme and cofactor to](#)

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... salt bridges and enforcing calcium binding sites to increase **chelant** stability. ...

Compounds: Recommendations 1993", R. Panico, W. H. Powell and J-C Richer (Eds. ...

[www.freepatentsonline.com/6251845.html](http://www.freepatentsonline.com/6251845.html) - 210k - [Cached](#)[Process and composition for detergents - United States Patent 6,096,703](#)Suitable water-soluble builder **compounds** include the water soluble monomeric ... specification 2,054,019 (cobalt **chelant** catalyst) Canadian 866,191 (transition ...[xrlnt.com/patents/us/by10/6096703](http://xrlnt.com/patents/us/by10/6096703) - 100k - [Cached](#)[Designing Small Molecules for Biodegradability](#)... and to the biodegradation mechanisms available for that class of **compounds**. ... Choline chloride has been used to develop ILs (called "deep eutectic solvents" ...[pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/shreay/2007/107/i06/pdf/cr050952t.html](http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/shreay/2007/107/i06/pdf/cr050952t.html) - 209k[\[PDF\] Designing Small Molecules for Biodegradability](#)523k - Adobe PDF - [View as HTML](#)shown to be a superior **chelant** for remediation of metal pollution by ex ... than branched **compounds** and diesel ... in **choline**-based or other biodegradable ...[pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/shreay/2007/107/i06/pdf/cr050952t.pdf](http://pubs.acs.org/cgi-bin/sample.cgi/shreay/2007/107/i06/pdf/cr050952t.pdf)[Detergent tablet - Patent # 6303561 - PatentGenius](#)Detergent tablets containing a compressed portion and a non-compressed portion wherein: a) the compressed portion ... and insoluble builder **compounds** are ...[www.patentgenius.com/patent/6303561.html](http://www.patentgenius.com/patent/6303561.html) - 179k - [Cached](#)

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**United States Patent**

**Lin, et al.**

**5,690,988**

**November 25, 1997**

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**Pet food composition of improved palatability and a method of enhancing the palatability of a food composition**

**Abstract**

A food composition having improved palatability to cats comprising a nutritious food mass and an palatability enhancing amount of a choline compound. The choline compound is incorporated within, or applied to the surface of, the cat food composition.

---

**Inventors:** **Lin; Charles F.** (Topeka, KS); **Lin; Jack K.** (Topeka, KS); **Jewell; Dennis E.** (Auburn, KS); **Toll; Philip W.** (Vally Falls, KS); **Stout; Neil P.** (Topeka, KS); **Prewitt; Larry R.** (Auburn, KS)

**Assignee:** **Colgate Palmolive Company** (New York, NY)

**Appl. No.:** **594607**

**Filed:** **February 2, 1996**

**Current U.S. Class:** **426/635; 426/72; 426/89; 426/97; 426/102; 426/534; 426/648; 426/650; 426/805**

**Intern'l Class:** **A23K 001/18; A23K 001/16; A23L 001/29; A23L 001/302**

**Field of Search:** **426/89,87,648,650,805,102,534,635,72**

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*Primary Examiner:* Czaja; Donald E.  
*Assistant Examiner:* Koh; Choon P.  
*Attorney, Agent or Firm:* Shapiro; Paul

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### Claims

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What is claimed is:

1. A food composition having an enhanced palatability to pet animals comprising a nutritious food mass and a palatability enhancing amount of a choline compound of at least about 0.25% by weight.
2. The food composition of claim 1 wherein the composition is surface coated with a coating containing the choline compound.
3. The food composition of claim 2, wherein the choline chloride is added to the food composition during manufacture.
4. The food composition of claim 1 wherein the choline compound is choline chloride.
5. The food composition of claim 1, wherein the composition also contains an inorganic or organic acid in addition to the choline compound.
6. The food composition of claim 5 wherein the acid is phosphoric acid.
7. The food composition of claim 5 wherein the acid is malic acid.
8. The food composition of claim 5 wherein the acid is fumaric acid.
9. The food composition of claim 5 wherein the acid is ascorbic acid.
10. A method of enhancing the palatability of a food composition having greater acceptance to pet animals comprising adding a palatability enhancing amount of at least 0.25% by weight of a choline compound to the food composition and feeding the food to pet animals.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein the choline compound is added to the food composition by topical application to the surface of the composition.
12. The method of claim 10 wherein the choline compound is added to the food composition during manufacture.
13. The method of claim 10 wherein the choline compound is choline chloride.
14. The method of claim 10 wherein an inorganic or organic acid is added in combination with the choline compound.
15. The method of claim 14 wherein the acid is phosphoric acid.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the acid is malic acid.
17. The method of claim 14 wherein the acid is fumaric acid.
18. The method of claim 14 wherein the acid is ascorbic acid.
19. The food composition of claim 1 having enhanced palatability to cats.
20. The method of claim 10 wherein the pet animal is a cat.

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### *Description*

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## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### 1. Field of the Invention--Pet Animals

This invention generally relates to a pet food composition and particularly a pet food having increased palatability to cats.

### 2. Prior Art

Pet foods provide a convenient and popular means for assuring proper feeding. While the art is well aware of the nutritional requirements of pets and is experienced in making rations which are balanced to provide complete nutrition when eaten, the foods must be made sufficiently palatable for the pet to assure that the ration is readily consumed in the required amounts. This is especially important in disease management diets. The pet must eat the food to benefit from its nutritional value and the pet owner will not buy a second package if it is initially rejected by the pet. This is especially true if the pet is suffering from a loss of appetite as one symptom of a disease or disorder, the food will not be fully consumed and consequently less than the recommended ration will be eaten.

Pet animals, particularly cats, are notoriously fickle in their food preferences and require a high degree of palatability. Dry pet foods are widely marketed for cats. Generally, commercially sold dry cat food products have a relatively low moisture content of less than about 12% by weight and provide excellent nutrition. The lower moisture content permits a higher degree of nutritional balancing of ingredients. Typically, the dry pet food product is produced by extrusion techniques and is generally well accepted by the cat but has the drawback that the product is significantly lower in palatability than canned or high moisture products that contain meat and have a moisture content above 50% by weight. One solution to the problem of low palatability of dry cat foods is to add a palatability enhancer to the food so that the cat will more readily accept the dry food product. In the pet food industry, materials such as animal origin digests, organic acids and their salts, and different types of meat proteins are commonly used to enhance the palatability of pet foods for cats. In spite of the effectiveness of these materials, a need has continually existed for additives or ingredients that can be added to cat food products to further enhance the palatability of the product without reducing its nutritive properties.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a cat food composition of improved palatability wherein a palatability enhancing amount of a choline compound is incorporated within, or applied to the surface of, the cat food composition.

The use of choline compounds to enhance the palatability of cat food compositions has been found to be

applicable to a wide range of commercial cat food products, and particularly dry cat foods.

Choline compounds have not been considered as palatability enhancers in the pet food industry although choline chloride has been included internally in pet foods at levels up to 0.24% by weight as a nutrition supplement. As will hereinafter be demonstrated, when included internally at such concentration levels, choline chloride has little or no effect on palatability enhancement in cat food.

Various methods of adding the choline compound to cat food compositions may be employed in accordance with the practice of the present invention including: applying the choline compound uniformly mixed with other ingredients of the cat food during manufacture so that the choline compound forms a part of the basal food or topically applying the choline compound as a coating to the surface of the food product after its manufacture. Regardless of the method of addition, the presence of the choline compound, at levels appropriate for the manner of addition, provides the maximum degree of taste sensor response from cats resulting in a statistically significant enhancement in palatability.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Choline is the trivial designation for the compound, 2-hydroxy-N,N,N-trimethylethanaminium. The term "choline compound" as used herein means choline containing compounds including choline or structural analogs of choline in combination with various anions. These anions may include among others, any of the halides (fluoride, iodide, chloride and bromide) bitartrate, dihydrogen citrate, bicarbonate, and salicylate and mixtures thereof. Specific examples include butyryl choline chloride, phosphoryl choline, calcium tetrahydrate acetyl choline chloride/bromide, iodide, cholic acid, cholic acid sodium dihydrate, choline bicarbonate, choline bisulfite, choline chloride phosphate, choline hydroxide, choline iodide and choline betartrate. In a preferred embodiment, the choline containing compound is choline chloride. Choline chloride at doses of 60 mg/day is recommended by small animal nutritionists as a structural component of fat and nervous tissue.

The term "palatability", as used herein, encompasses within its meaning all of the various properties of the food sensed by the cat such as taste and smell. The cat food compositions and methods of enhancing the palatability thereof to which the present invention is intended to apply generally relate to cat food compositions of any moisture content but preferably a cat food prepared from a nutritionally balanced mixture of proteinaceous and farinaceous ingredients having a moisture content of less than about 75% by weight. It is presently believed, however, that the palatability enhancer of the present invention is especially important for use with dry cat foods, that is, foods having a moisture content of less than about 12% because of their relative need for some palatability enhancement.

The term "cat food composition", as used herein, is generally intended to apply to commercially sold, nutritionally balanced cat food compositions. Cat food compositions meeting this definition are characterized by a minimum protein content since there is a certain minimum protein level required when the cat food composition provides the sole food intake for the cat. Commercially sold dry cat food compositions typically have a minimum protein content that is dependent upon the age of the animal to which it is to be fed, or if the animal is mature, whether or not it is involved in breeding. Thus, while females involved in breeding, or kittens would require a minimum protein content of at least about 28% by weight and preferably about 30-35% by weight on a 90% dry matter basis in the composition, cats not in either of the above two categories, e.g., mature cats not involved in reproduction, would require a minimum protein level of at least about 20% by weight based on a 90% dry matter basis in the composition. Preferably, the protein content will be at least 25% by weight and more typically at least about 30% by weight on a 90% dry matter basis in the cat food product.

The cat food compositions of the present invention to which the choline compound is added are not intended to be restricted by any specific listing of ingredients since these will be entirely dependent upon the nutritional balance of the ration desired as well as their availability to the pet food manufacturer. Generally, aside from the nutrition balancing additives such as vitamins and minerals, or other additives such as preservatives, emulsifiers, included in products of this type, commercial pet food compositions

for the most part consist of ingredients that may either be termed substantially proteinaceous or ingredients that may be termed substantially farinaceous. Although the following description should not be considered limiting for the purposes of the present invention, the proteinaceous ingredient may be defined as any material having a protein content of at least about 15% by weight whereas the farinaceous material may be defined as having a protein content below about 15% by weight and a major fraction of starchy or carbohydrate containing materials.

Examples of proteinaceous materials typically used in commercial pet foods are: vegetable protein meals such as soybean, cottonseed, and peanut; animal proteins such as casein, albumen, and meat tissue including fresh meat; as well as rendered or dried animal "meals" such as fish meal, poultry meal, meat meal, bone meal, and the like. Other types of proteinaceous materials include microbial proteins such as yeast and other types of protein such as wheat gluten or corn gluten.

Examples of typical farinaceous materials are grains such as corn, rice and wheat and various other grains which are relatively low in protein.

The choline compound may be applied in accordance with the practice of the present invention, after manufacture of the cat food, in a palatability enhancing amount, to the surface of the cat food composition generally in an amount of about 0.06% by weight or more and preferably about 0.12 to about 0.60% by weight based on the weight of the food composition and most preferably about 0.24 to about 0.30% by weight. This level of choline compound provides a significant palatability improvement over cat food compositions of identical formulation to which the choline compound has not been topically applied to the food product surface.

When admixed with the other ingredients of the cat food during manufacture and present internally therein palatability enhancement, an amount of choline compound of at least about 0.25% by weight or within a preferred range of about 0.30 to about 0.60% by weight is included in the food composition. When so incorporated within the food composition, it is critical that at least about 0.25% of the choline compound is present for as will hereinafter be demonstrated, when the choline compound is present internally in the food product in lesser amounts, little or no palatability enhancement is observed.

Also in accordance with the practice of the present invention, the choline compound may be used in combination with other known palatability enhancers. For example, phosphoric acid, coated onto the surface of a dry cat food, has been shown to be a palatability enhancer. U.S. Pat. No. 3,679,429 discloses a method for improving the palatability of dry cat food by coating the food with fat and one of the following flavor enhancing acids: hexamic, tartaric, fumaric and lactic acids, phosphoric and citric acids. U.S. Pat. No. 3,930,031 discloses improving the palatability of semi-dry and dry cat food by coating the food with a mixture of phosphoric acid and citric acid wherein the coating provides at least 0.5% by weight phosphoric acid.

The added acid also provides a preservative or antimycotic action, inhibits spoilage due to contamination and acts as an alkaline buffer whereby the choline compound is stabilized to decomposition.

Insofar as the application of the palatability enhancing amount of the choline compound as a coating applied topically to the surface of the cat food, it is preferred to apply the choline compound as a dispersion with a fat material such as choice white grease in order to provide a uniform distribution of the choline compound on the food composition surfaces, thereby assuring maximum availability to the taste receptors of the cat.

In one means of effecting the application of the choline compound to the surface of a cat food composition, according to the present method of enhancing the palatability thereof, food particles such as those of the extruded type are transported while in a somewhat heated condition on a suitable conveyer to a spray chamber or mixing drum or vat. If a dry product is desired, the particles are first dried to a moisture level of below about 12% by forced air. A mixture of the choline compound and melted fat is separately formed in a mixing tank or metering pump by blending the requisite level of fat

and choline compound which is then introduced to the spray chamber or mixing tank. The fat dispersion containing the choline compound is then sprayed on, or mixed with, the food particles to provide the desired level of fat and a palatability enhancing amount of the choline compound on the cat food particles. Following coating of the food particles, the coated particles are collected and then transported, if desired, to a tumbling drum or similar apparatus wherein the coated particles are tumbled repeatedly to improve the uniformity of the coating. The coated food particles can then be removed from the tumbling drum and cooled to ambient temperature.

If it is desired to incorporate the choline compound within the cat food product admixed with the other food product ingredients, the choline compound is merely admixed with the other ingredients of the food formulation preparatory to the manufacturing process as, for example, by extrusion, baking or canning processes.

Application of the choline compound to a food composition in a palatability enhancing amount either as a surface coating or intimately admixed with the other food ingredients results in significant palatability response from cats in comparison to the same cat food composition without the choline compound. A significant improvement in cat food formulation is, therefore, achieved by the application of the choline compound since the palatability of the composition to the cat is usually a controlling factor in the commercial success of such compositions.

Pursuant to a better understanding of the present invention, the following Examples describe illustrative but non-limiting embodiments thereof.

#### EXAMPLE I

##### Cat Food Composition Formulation Containing Choline Chloride Admixed With Other Food Ingredients

An extruded cat food composition having a protein content of about 31% by weight on a 90% dry matter basis was prepared by mixing 0.30% by weight choline chloride and major amounts of animal by-product meal, fish meal, brewers rice and yellow corn and minor amounts of yeast, cellulose, fiber, salt (sodium chloride), vitamins and minerals.

The choline chloride was completely admixed with the other ingredients before being extruded. The choline chloride was a commercial feed grade of choline chloride (60% purity). The ingredient mixture was then transferred to a steam preconditioner and subjected to steam and moisture in order to adjust the moisture content to between about 20 and 40% by weight. The conditioned mixture was then extruded under conditions of elevated temperature and pressure to form a continuous strand of product that was segmented into pieces or kibbles by a rotating cutting knife upon exit of the strand from the extruder. The particles were then conveyed to a forced air drying system and the moisture level reduced to below about 10% by weight. The dried, extruded kibbles were placed in a small cement mixer for mixing with choice white grease which was heated to about 122.degree. F. This mixture was stirred for about 5 minutes to achieve a uniform coating. The so coated cat food was then placed in polyethylene-lined bags and stored at room temperature for about two days before being tested for palatability.

For purposes of comparison, the procedure of Example I was repeated with the exception that 0.24% by weight choline chloride was admixed with the other ingredients used to prepare the extruded cat food product.

The palatability of the two cat food products containing respectively 0.24 and 0.30% by weight choline chloride was measured using a palatability test which determined the extent to which cats may prefer one pet food diet over another pet food diet. In this palatability test two pan comparisons with a panel of 30 cats were used. Each cat was presented with two pans of food, each containing a measured amount of the test rations which were more food than the animal was expected to consume. The test was run for two days. The amount of food consumed was measured. A direct comparison of consumption of the

two rations gives a reliable indication of relative palatability. The direct comparison or mean intake ratio, for all animals was made based on the intake ratio for each animal as follows:  $A/(A+B)$  where A is the sum of the weight consumed from Pan A containing pet food to which choline chloride had been added and B is the sum of the weight consumed from pan B containing a commercially available dry cat food sold for mature cats containing about 0.24% by weight choline chloride as a nutritional supplement, which served as a control.

The results of the palatability tests are recorded in Table I below. The higher the food intake ratio the greater the palatability of the food to the cats which participated in the test.

TABLE I

Composition	Wt. % Choline Chloride Added to Food	
	Preferring %*	Food Intake Ratio
0.24	23	0.35
0.30	68	0.63**

\*% of cats preferring the food containing choline chloride over the commercial cat food product which served as a control.

\*\*p < 0.01 (Data is statistically significant to a confidence level of 99%).

The results recorded in Table I indicate that the palatability of dry cat food is significantly increased as compared to a commercially available cat food when the concentration of choline chloride is raised from 0.24% to 0.30% by weight levels.

## EXAMPLE II

### Cat Food Composition Containing Choline Chloride Incorporated in White Grease Surface Coating

The procedure of Example I was repeated, except varying amounts of choline chloride were added to the choice white grease coating applied to the surface of the food particles.

A commercially available dry cat food containing 0.24% by weight choline chloride as a nutrition supplement, served as the control. The results are recorded in Table II below.

TABLE II

Wt. % Choline Chloride Added to Food Composition in Coating	Wt. % Choline Chloride in Food Composition	Food Intake	
		Preferring %*	Ratio
0.06	0.30	67	0.56
0.12	0.36	57	0.50
0.18	0.42	60	0.58
0.24	0.48	80	0.74**



0.30	0.54	75	0.66**
0.54	0.78	73	0.68**

\*% of cats preferring food coated with choline chloride over the control food.  
 \*\*p < 0.01

The results recorded in Table II show that when choline chloride is applied to the surface of cat food at concentration levels of 0.06% by weight or more, a substantial enhancement in the palatability of the food to cats is observed.

For purposes of contrast, the procedure of Example II was repeated except the commercial cat food, which contained 0.2% sodium chloride, was coated with choice white grease containing varying amounts of sodium chloride salt.

The commercial cat food without salt addition to the white grease coating was used as a control. The results are recorded in Table III below.

TABLE III

Coating	Wt. % NaCl in Food Composition	Wt. % NaCl Added to Food Composition	% Preferring	Food Intake Ratio
0.10	0.30		40	0.47
0.40	0.60		25	0.42
0.70	0.90		18	0.25**
1.00	1.20		29	0.34**
1.30	1.50		8	0.19**

\*% of cats preferring food coated with sodium chloride containing choice white grease over the control food.  
 \*\*p < 0.01

The results recorded in Table III indicate that saltiness induced by sodium chloride salt significantly decreased the palatability of the cat food. Thus, the palatability enhancement obtained from the use of choline chloride is not attributed to any saltiness of the compound.

EXAMPLE III

The procedure of Example II was repeated except inorganic acid such as phosphoric acid (75.0% solution) and organic acids such as malic acid powder (99.9% purity), fumaric acid powder (99.9% purity), and ascorbic acid powder (99.9% purity) were included in the choice white grease coating. A commercial cat food containing 0.24% by weight choline chloride as a nutrition supplement served as the control. The results are recorded in Table IV below.

TABLE IV

Wt. % Choline Chloride in	Food
---------------------------	------

Choline Chloride in  
Organic Acids in Intake

Coating (Wt. %)  
Food Composition  
Coating (Wt. %)  
% Preferring\*  
Ratio

0.06	0.30	0.00	67	0.56
0.06	0.30	0.40	phosphoric acid 100	0.96**
0.18	0.42	0.00	60	0.58
0.18	0.42	0.10	malic acid 65	0.67**
0.18	0.42	0.10	fumaric acid 67	0.61**
0.18	0.42	0.10	ascorbic acid 75	0.67**

\*% of cats preferring grease coated food product containing palatability enhancing agent in the coating over the control food.

\*\*p < 0.01

The palatability data recorded in Table IV indicates that the food composition surface with a combination of choline chloride and organic acids or inorganic acid were preferred to a greater degree by cats than the food in which organic acids were absent from the coating.

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Below is a cache of [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MDA\\_petfooddrugs\\_10305\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/MDA_petfooddrugs_10305_7.pdf). It's a snapshot of the page taken as our search engine crawled the Web. We've highlighted the words **pet food related cancer**. The web site itself may have changed. You can check the [current page](#) (without highlighting) or check for previous versions at [the Internet Archive](#).

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September/October 1993

**WHEN PET FOODS ARE DRUGS**

*The following information is taken from a presentation by CVM's David A. Dzanic, D.V.M., Ph.D., DACVIM, at the American Veterinary Medical Association Convention in July 1993*

As the American consumer has become more conscious of health and the benefits of good nutrition, many "health claims" have appeared on product labels. And, since the pet food industry follows many of the same marketing strategies as human food producers, it is not surprising that many pet food labels also bear these types of claims.

The Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act defines "food" as an article used for food or drink for man or other animals. A "drug" is in part an article intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease. The Act requires that a drug be subject to an approval process prior to marketing. Foods are not required to have a premarket approval unless they are considered to be food additives.

The legal definitions of foods and drugs become intertwined when a food label bears a claim that consumption of the product will treat, prevent, or otherwise affect a disease or condition. In other words, it makes a drug claim. And, if the product was not subject to the normal premarket clearance mechanism to demonstrate safety and efficacy, it is unsafe by definition. Therefore, pet foods with labels bearing drug claims are subject to regulation as drugs as well as foods.

The Nutrition, Labeling and Education Act (NLEA), passed in 1990, allowed certain health claims on foods for human consumption. These are claims where the intake of certain foods reduces the risk of a disease. For example, the relationship of dietary fiber with the reduction of risk of colon cancer could appear on breakfast cereals high in fiber. Other relationships, such as calcium and osteoporosis, and salt and hypertension, are also mentioned in the NLEA. Such claims, where the discussion of intake of a certain food with the reduction of risk of a disease, could appear on the label without automatically rendering the product a drug.

A similar relationship between diet and disease can be argued for pet foods; however, the NLEA did not expressly include animal feeds or pet foods in the new law. Thus, there is little legal basis to allow for similar health claims on pet food labels.

CVM has incorporated some of the philosophy of the NLEA in its policies to allow for meaningful health-related information on pet food labels. Much of these efforts to date have focused on label claims related to cat foods and the prevention of Feline Urologic Syndrome (FUS).

The exact cause of FUS is not known, but a number of dietary and non-dietary factors may be involved. The ability for a cat food to produce an appropriately acidic urine, and to a lesser degree, to limit the amount of dietary magnesium, may affect the incidence of the disease.

Label claims to prevent or reduce the risk of FUS, cystitis, or urinary problems are not allowed under the law. However, CVM, in an attempt to get related information to the consumer, is exercising regulatory discretion in allowing such claims as "reduce urine pH to help maintain urinary tract health," or "low magnesium levels." Of course, with respect to urine pH claims, this discretion is contingent on adequate controlled studies to demonstrate that the product produces an acidic urine and that it is safe for the animal. The "low magnesium level" claim requires the company to submit the results of proximate analysis of a number of runs of the product. The criteria to support a "low magnesium" claim is less than 0.12 percent on a dry matter basis and less than 25 mg per 100 kilocalories of metabolizable energy.

Another FUS claim, "low ash," is not allowed on pet food labels. The current scientific consensus is that ash, *per se*, is not related to the incidence of FUS, and to reference it on the label would be false and misleading.

#### ***Weight Control Claims***

More and more "lite" pet food products are now available, again following marketing practices for human foods. Some pet food labels have claimed that the product treats or prevents conditions associated with obesity, such as heart disease, arthritis, and even cancer.

The data to support the premise that obesity in dogs or cats causes these conditions is arguable. Regardless, such claims are drug claims and should not appear on pet food labels.

The Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) Pet Food Committee did establish an internal guideline that a "lite" product must be at least 15 percent lower in calories than the company's standard product. However, since caloric content of pet foods varies greatly from company to company, one company's "lite" could be higher in calories than another company's standard product.

The AAFCO is developing means to allow caloric content statements on labels, and to define the term "lite" based on a standard reference for all products, regardless of manufacturer.

#### ***Dental Health Claims***

Label claims for "clean teeth" have been on pet foods for many years, particularly on dry, hard, biscuit products. However, as the field of veterinary dentistry has grown, a number of products have borne more explicit claims— claims to treat or prevent gingivitis or periodontal disease. To achieve these intended effects, ingredients historically not found in foods are being incorporated in some new products. Ingredients such as pyrophosphates and enzymes are of concern to CVM. An ingredient that is not generally recognized as safe (GRAS) and not the subject of an approved food additive petition for its intended use may be an unapproved food additive. Therefore, even

without drug claims, pet food products containing unapproved food additives are subject to regulatory action.

Claims to treat or prevent gingivitis or periodontal disease are obviously drug claims and should not appear on pet food labels.

***Veterinary Medical Foods***

Veterinary medical foods are generally intended to be offered as the sole source of nutrition to animals with specific medical conditions. They usually contain restricted amounts of certain nutrients to aid in the mitigation of some disease process. These products are often identified on the market by the label phrase "use under directions of a veterinarian." Originally, this phrase applied to labels for medicated pet foods which contain an antibiotic or other drug. These

These companies do not tell you that euthanized cats and dogs are being rendered down to make cat and dog food. (AAFCO President admitted to this on a news video).

**ADVERTISING LAWS NEED TO BE RE-ENFORCED; ie "Vet recommended", VETS ARE PAID BY THE COMPANY TO SELL THIS GARBAGE.**

**"FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR PET" What exactly does that mean???**

It is the **QUALITY** of the proteins that animals need, not more or less of the synthetic altered fillers.

**DOW Chemical and KODAK** were in hot water with the FTC, not for the fact that used photo processing chemicals were being used as vitamin supplements in pet foods, but because of a paperwork error.

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## **ASPCA Victory: First-of-Its-Kind Animal Abandonment Law Passed!**

The subprime mortgage crisis that has devastated homeowners and the economy has brought with it a troubling trend: pets abandoned after home foreclosures. Those who assess deserted homes are often directed to leave property—including pets—untouched until the foreclosure process is completed. As a result, many pets have been left to die.

The ASPCA would like to congratulate the California Legislature for addressing this issue with the swift passage of Assembly Bill 2949, which amends California's Civil Code to require property owners—including banks or other corporate entities—to immediately notify animal control officials when animals are abandoned at foreclosed properties.

AB 2949 was born out of California State Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier's annual "There Ought to Be a Law" contest. Contest winner Sheri Kuticka recognized this tragic consequence of the housing market downturn, and suggested that something be done to help abandoned animals. She, along with the ASPCA and the California Animal Association, cosponsored the legislation, which was signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger on August 4.

"While pets are mere 'property' in the eyes of the law, the difference between a cat and a stereo is self-evident," says Californian Jill Buckley, ASPCA Senior Director of Government Relations. "Before this law, a lot of well-meaning people's hands were tied when they found pets in empty homes. Of course, the most important thing is for folks not to abandon their pets in the first place—but at least now, these unlucky animals will have a chance to get the life-saving care they need."

If you might be facing foreclosure, please plan ahead to find suitable solutions for your pets. And if you live in California, visit the ASPCA Advocacy Center to send Governor Schwarzenegger an email thanking him for approving AB 2949 so quickly.

(Taken from website

[http://www.asPCA.org/site/PageServer?pagename=media\\_newsalert081508&JServSessionIdr012=6llig8ccy2.app26b#1](http://www.asPCA.org/site/PageServer?pagename=media_newsalert081508&JServSessionIdr012=6llig8ccy2.app26b#1))

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You are here: Home / Companion Animals

## Companion Animals



This site has been provided as a convenience to assist with issues related to companion animals. Please note that the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and its regulations do not apply to many companion animal problems.

Wholesale breeders, dealers, exhibitors and research labs are covered but not small retail breeders and pet shops selling only domestic pet animals. These are usually covered by local (state, county) anti-cruelty laws. If you have concerns about a facility covered under the Act, contact [APHIS Animal Care](#).

### In the News

**Notice on Internet Adoption and Purchase Scams**  
Jul. 28, 2008 -- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been notified of an increasing number of Internet scams involving adoptions of pets from other countries into the United States.

### Spotlights



**Horses, 2006**  
*USDA, NAL, Animal Welfare Information Center.*  
A bibliography and Web site resources related to the housing, husbandry and welfare of horses.

**Pet Food Task Force**  
*USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.*  
Information from the Pet Food Task Force, established in 2004 by the National Organic Standards Board to develop labeling standards for organic pet food.



**Pet Food Recall**  
*US Food and Drug Administration.*  
Provides information on the nationwide pet food recall, including news updates, a list of recalled foods, and how to report a complaint.



**Spaying and Neutering Cats, Dogs and Related Wildlife, 2005**  
*USDA, NAL, Animal Welfare Information Center.*  
Provides a comprehensive view of the literature published on the broad topic of spaying and neutering cats and dogs.



**Pet Travel**  
*USDA, APHIS, Animal Care.*  
Provides basic information on domestic and international travel of common pets and other animals.

**I Want To**

- Find Information on Financial Assistance for Veterinary Care for My Pet

- Learn About USDA's Regulation of Commercial Animal Dealers

### Companion Animals

- Common Questions
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- Emergencies and Disaster Planning
- Legislation, Regulations, Policies, and Guidelines

### Site Map

- Find a Veterinarian
- Find a Shelter
- Find a Local Humane Society
- List of State Veterinarians
- Centers for Disease Control, Animal and Animal Product Importation
- Pets and Wildlife Licensing and Health Requirements
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Turtle Regulations
- Veterinary Medicine Libraries

Govt. reference to "Companion Animals" NOT "pets"