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Dear Honorable Assembly Members of the:

**NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING Committee:**

I am in receipt of the following Email from an individual concerned about Animal Issues in Nye County. I received the Email last night 5-19-09 at 6:30 pm and immediately conducted an inquiry with my staff in the Central Area Command which is responsible for the Amargosa Valley, I personally spoke with one of the three Central Area Command deputies assigned to Amargosa Valley (population 1,390), Dispatch, Area Commander and Nye County Animal Control Officers.

I was not aware of any animal abuse issues, but made the inquiry, never- the- less. No one has contacted this office to report any animal abuse issues. We have two properties where a kennel is Legally Operated, one by a Long Term Resident of over 10 years. Animal Control routinely has made inspections of the property and has not found any violations. The other is a Rescue Group out of Las Vegas who houses rescued animals here for adoption, they transport those animal back to Las Vegas for adoption at different venues there. They are started this Rescue operation in Amargosa Valley recently.

This property is also routinely checked and no violations.

Let me state a fact that no one has contacted me or my staff to report any of the animal abuse acts alleged. I find it irresponsible that those who made these claims would rather "Grandstand" in legislative hearing and malign my constituents, with out fact or corroboration. If these individuals were aware of any animal abuse they, in my opinion are just as Culpable for these acts if they did not report them to the proper Nye County authority.

I am also disappointed in the comments attributed to Assemblyman James Ohrenschall of District 12 (Clark) "Many retirees in Amargosa cruelly chain their dogs out in the boiling sun and thus he has to pass SB132."

There is no evidence that it took place, also Assemblyman Ohrenschall singled out a certain population group of individuals who are part of "The Greatest Generation" and attributing animal abuse solely to them.

We all have responsibilities, as the former President and current member of the Nevada Sheriff's and Chiefs Association, I worked with many of you to make our State better, and have respected your positions.

We need to act on facts, not to have one side make unsubstantiated accusations to further an agenda or in this case a Bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to make my position and facts known. I would welcome anyone who is not familiar with Amargosa Valley, the peaceful community and its wonderful caring people to contact me and I will arrange a tour and meet and great.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony L DeMeo, Sheriff Nye County Nevada

(Note this was an inquiry sent by SaveRNVanimals.org, who was in attendance at the mentioned meetings and heard, observed, or was told the allegations in the email. )

This is from the Email sent to my office

“The name of Amargosa Valley has been bandied about much in several discussions by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) on some anti-breeder dog bills.

They accused Amargosa of the following:

\* A puppy mill bust or incident somewhere in Amargosa in recent years (no further details of the incident)

And, Assemblyman Jame Ohrenschall of District 12 (Clark) said that the Las Vegas Humane Society and the like, said:

\* Many retirees in Amargosa cruelly chain their dogs out in the boiling sun and thus he has to pass SB132 - Tethering bill...because after 3 times they should be thrown in jail as a Class C felon!

I mean, you are the Sheriff for Nye County, are these allegations true? or are they just propaganda by the Animal Rightists and the big city slickers from Las Vegas? I'd like to know the truth.

They really make Amargosa sound like a hot bed of big, bad criminal activity. I myself have driven through the area, and nobody really lives there much, (I like to camp at Beatty) so why are you guys, the Fall Guy for these animal bills?

Can you clarify these allegations by the city folks in Las Vegas and the HSUS?

I'd like to hear the law enforcement side of the story. Is Amargosa a hotbed of this alleged criminal animal activity?"

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