



February 12, 2007

To: Arizona Department of Racing

Attn: Mr. Geoffrey Gonsler, Director

via fax and email

Re: Greyhound Welfare Issue

Dear Mr. Gonsler,

I am writing regarding my concerns about Tucson Greyhound Park's most recent plan to "get rid of" greyhounds in the facility that have graded off. Someone in the racing office mentioned to me that it is TGP's intention to put an ad in the paper and hand the dogs out on a 30-day spay and neuter contract to whomever they can get to take them. Beyond the fact that this is against the current regulations, let me just touch on the major reasons that this is a disastrous idea:

- There will be little or no follow up
- No assurance that the dog is altered
- No adequate screening of adopters
- No home check
- No fence check
- No adequate profiling of the dogs
- No small animal compatibility testing
- No temperament testing for compatibility with children
- No teeth cleaning
- No tick titer or valley fever testing
- No worming for hook, tape, round or whip worm
- No updated vaccines for rabies, distemper and parvo
- No consult for problems
- No return options, if the home does not work out
- No connection to the greyhound adoption community

These are all services that legitimate adoption groups perform in order to ensure a successful adoption for both the greyhound and the adoptive family. The TGP plan not only puts the greyhounds at great risk, but also creates serious liability issues for the State of Arizona and the Department of Racing.

If this irresponsible plan is implemented, it will become yet another public relations nightmare for TGP and evidence that the track is continuing its policy of wanton disregard for the welfare of the greyhounds and the community. I am hoping that you will use the power of your office to put a stop to this ill-conceived idea immediately.

Thank you for your help,

Susan Netboy, President
Greyhound Protection League

cc: Arizona Attorney General's Office
Office of the Governor of Arizona