



January 27, 2009

Statement to WSVMA Members regarding involvement with puppy mill seizures

The WSVMA recognizes the emotional difficulties and the desire to help when those in the veterinary profession see law enforcement raid "so-called" puppy mills. At the same time the association recognizes that matters of criminal law and seizure of property before and after charging those alleged to have committed crimes is fraught with pitfalls for well-meaning volunteers and business owners that are not officers of the court. The WSVMA encourages all veterinarians and staff members who desire to help law enforcement with any of their activities consult with their personal legal counsel and liability carrier to ensure they understand the circumstances and are aware of any risks they may choose to accept.