

# **Key Issues:**

- "Retail rescue" importation of dogs from profit under the guise of legitimate rescue is a major problem, according to the CDC
- Thousands of dogs and puppies are imported into Illinois each year from major "puppy mill" states with lax animal welfare laws
- Some Illinois rescues get 80% of their dogs from out-of-state
- It is unclear where these "rescues" actually come from. Importation records don't show the true origin.
- Transportation is stressful for animals and can spread deadly disease

## **PAWS Chicago**

Importing from: AR
Adoption fees:

\$200 - \$450

**Revenue (2020):** \$15.1m

### Wright-Way Rescue

**Importing from:** MS **Adoption fees:** 

\$345 - \$545

**Revenue (2020):** \$3.4m

#### Anderson Humane

Importing from: OK
Adoption fees:

\$125 - \$525

**Revenue (2020):** \$4.6m

# Jellystone Bark's Rescue Rangers

Importing from: KY

Adoption fees:

Up to \$895

**Revenue (2020):** 273k

	Imports	Surrenders	Strays	In-State Transfer	Import Rate
PAWS Chicago 2021	1590	296	2	251	74.3%
PAWS Chicago 2022	1177	288	4	246	68.6%
Wright Way 2021	3590	0	27	853	80.3%
Wright Way 2022	3363	1195	52	93	71.5%
Anderson Humane 2021	1820	322	44	0	83.3%
Anderson Humane 2022	1819	321	3	0	84.9%
Jellystone Bark 2022	1688	0	0	4	99.7%

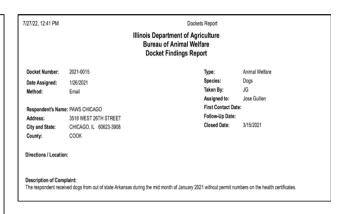


"Many dogs are bred irresponsibly in large numbers in "puppy mills" overseas, where the risk of congenital abnormalities and disease is high. Importers then fly them as cargo in large batches, claiming them as "rescue" dogs, valued at \$0 on their paperwork, and allowing the importers to evade entry and broker fees."

#### - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

PAWS Chicago reprimanded by Illinois Department of Agriculture for illegally importing animals in 2021.

	February 3, 2021
	PAWS Chicago 3516 W. 26 <sup>a</sup> Street Chicago, IL 60623 License 087-10094 (Docket # 2021-0015)
l	NOTICE OF WARNING (ANIMAL HEALTH & WELFARE #2021-0015)
	Dear PAWS,
	On or around January 20, 2021, an investigation was conducted by the Illinois Department of Agriculture regarding potential violations of the Animal Welfare Act. As a result of this investigation, you have been found to be noncompliant with the Illinois Animal Welfare Act. Specifically, you are in violation of 8 Illinois Administrative code section 25.47, which states, in relevant part: "Licensees shall not cause animals to be imported into Illinois from another state or country, unless the animals are accompanied by a health certificate and an entry permit number that satisfy the following requirements: Health Certificate Requirements Entry Permit Number Requirements". A copy of the relevant section is enclosed.
	While the accredited veterinarian issuing a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and/or other documents required for the interstate movement of animals is obligated to meet the requirements of the state of destination and origination, as well as Federal interstate movement requirements, it is your responsibility as a licensee to ensure that all CVT's you receive for interstate movement comply with the Illinois Animal Welfare Act and its Administrative Rules.
	Violation(s) of the Illinois Animal Welfare Act and/or its Administrative Rules, are subject to the administrative penalties set forth in 225 ILCS 605/2.5. The minimum fine is \$1,000.
l	Please be advised that a copy of this warning letter will be placed in your file.



August 2022 import from Oklahoma to Illinois showing "beagle" and "doodle" puppies. This Oklahoma facility says it has transported 14,000 animals since 2014.

