

From: jody fisher

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 8:49 PM

To: Rogers, James

Cc: Dunlap, Tracy; Beamon, Chelton; Hooks, Director Janet; Hall, LaSonya; Hankins, Kirby; Wharton, AC

Subject: Certified Letter from Tracy Dunlap

Mr. Rogers,

I received a certified letter, dated April 10th, from Tracy Dunlap. In the letter, Mr. Dunlap stated, "You were observed trying to walk dogs in our Stray Area....." This is false. I was stunned to learn I was being barred from "dog walking" at MAS due to this false accusation without even the courtesy of being asked for my side of the story (it was a total fabrication). Once I recovered from this emotional blow, my thoughts went immediately to how I could prove this was a false allegation. As such, I filed a FOIA request for the security camera footage showing all the dog areas during the time I was at MAS on the day in question (April 7th). This was 4 days after receiving Mr. Dunlap's letter. Being aware of the city's history of overwriting FOIA footage before responding to requests, I specifically asked that it not be overwritten. I followed up daily with this request but was ignored. Had the city fulfilled my request as required by law, I would have been able to disprove Mr. Dunlap's allegation. By the time the city responded to my request, the footage had been overwritten, just as I feared. I would have hoped that you did not take someone's word that I was "trying to walk dogs in the stray area, etc" without either reviewing the footage yourself or at least allowing me to respond to the accusation.

Mr. Beamon has never spoken to me about my privileges as alleged in Mr. Dunlap's letter.

The "derogatory comments on YesBiscuit" referenced in Mr. Dunlap's letter have no bearing on my suitability as a dog walker at MAS. I am not affiliated with the YesBiscuit blog nor responsible for its contents. The author is a resident of South Carolina who monitors animals shelters, including MAS. The lactating mother dog that was posted on the blog and referenced in Mr. Dunlap's letter was transferred out of MAS alive and is currently saving the lives of an orphaned litter of pups at another shelter, thanks to the exposure she received on the internet. This was my hope for her, as it is for every animal at MAS, and I'm very pleased her case turned out so well. I have observed that the internet is a powerful force for networking shelter pets and it certainly proved true in this case.

I am requesting to have my "walking privileges" reinstated, in light of the false accusations and misinformation contained in Mr. Dunlap's letter, as well as not needing an escort and be allowed to photograph the dogs. I believe my dismissal to be without merit. I further request that in the future, you speak to me directly if there is a concern and allow me the opportunity to tell my side of the story.

The courtesy of a reply is appreciated.

Jody Fisher