



State of North Carolina
Department of the Secretary of State

ELAINE F. MARSHALL
SECRETARY OF STATE

CHARITABLE SOLICITATION LICENSING

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 26, 2011

Ms. Diane Sacripanti,
North Carolina Rottweiler Rescue
5613 Old Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27610

RE: 2010CSL12447 – North Carolina Rottweiler Rescue

Dear Ms. Sacripanti:

Charitable Solicitation Licensing Division (CSL) is in receipt of your letter dated January 14, 2011 in response to our request for additional information regarding the solicitation of charitable contributions by North Carolina Rottweiler Rescue (NCRR) on behalf of rescue dog “Bella.” As you have previously been informed, CSL has received complaints from two (2) individuals alleging that solicited contributions have not been applied in a manner consistent with the solicitation in violation of NCGS §131F-20(18), which states that it is unlawful to fail to apply contributions in a manner substantially consistent with a solicitation.

CSL has analyzed the written response and attachments you have provided on behalf of NCRR concerning these solicitations. Your response letter included a copy of a webpage with the official logo for “chipin” and title “Rome GA pitty thrown from car window” that includes a list of twelve (12) contributors to this solicitation listing their names, email addresses, and donation amounts totaling three-hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00) paid to NCRR as indicated by the email address ncrottierescue@gmail.com. This is the same email address that has been regularly used by you in correspondence to CSL concerning NCRR. Messages from these contributors include several direct statements that their donation was for the benefit of the dog, “Bella.” Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that NCRR and/or individuals representing NCRR solicited these funds for the charitable purpose of benefitting the dog, Bella.

Your response also includes the following statement:

“\$350 in Chipin donations have been set aside for when Bella is returned to NCRR in North Carolina. Zero dollars of the chipin have been disbursed for any purpose. The rescue account has well over \$1000 in it.”

Therefore, it may be concluded that NCRR has not disbursed the funds solicited on behalf of Bella via this solicitation and still maintains custody of the contributed funds. Accordingly, we do not find any evidence of violation of the relevant statutes or rules at this time.

In order to ensure that NCRR does not unknowingly violate the laws the CSL oversees, I offer the following four (4) courses of action that would be in accordance with the laws relating to charitable solicitations, to wit:

1. NCRR may use the funds for expenses associated with care of the animal as represented in the original solicitation, or
2. NCRR may continue holding all contributions received in response to this solicitation for Bella’s future care; or
3. NCRR may return each individual donation to each contributor who contributed as a result of the solicitation; or
4. NCRR may contact contributors to obtain written permission to redirect their contributions for another charitable purpose.

By this letter, NCRR is notified that the CSL inquiry into this matter is closed with no violations found by or against NCRR. CSL reserves the right to re-open this inquiry if additional information is presented that would indicate the necessity to do so.

Thank you for your prompt response to our request for information.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Black,
CSL Director