

## Experience at Indianapolis Animal Care and Control

Today, October 27, 2009 I had the "unfortunate" experience of visiting the Indianapolis Animal Care and Control facility on South Harding. Over the weekend I had lost one of my pets and was following up with ICAC to check kennels to see if he had been turned in. My visit was deeply disturbing. There were at least 6 litters of puppies in the kennels with larger dogs, mini pins, Lhasa Apsos, Chihuahuas, all in the same kennel area as St. Bernards, Chows, Akitas and other large mixed breed dogs. To say the kennels were dirty is a complete misnomer, they were filthy, filled with feces and urine, and not just something that might have happened over night, multiple bowel movements combined with wet bedding, vomit and urine, resulting in a stench that was stomach turning. I wanted to get this down immediately, while the picture is still very clear. The puppies in one instance were kenneled next to an extremely aggressive dog that was throwing itself against the kennel wires, the pathetic little puppies were shaking and whining in fear. After being escorted to five kennel areas, as I was leaving there were three employees (one of which had a stick with a noose at the end) discussing that they were going to handle one of the dogs by "pushing the dog into the corner and jacking the shit out of him" This is a direct quote, not something that I've made up, and not something that I will soon forget. The malice in this man's tone was chilling. I understand that ICAC is understaffed and underfunded, I also understand that what's taken place with the changing of the guard was politically motivated. I've been a volunteer at IACC throughout the years, and the conditions today are as bad, if not worse than they were 18 months ago. The way our animals are treated in Indianapolis is shameful.

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