Dear New York Dog and Cat Breeders and Pet Store Owners:

The New York State Pet Dealer Licensing Law became effective July 1, 2002. The following criteria must be met to comply with this law.

If your facility sells or offers to sell nine or more dogs and/or cats per year, you must apply for a license in order to continue in business unless you qualify under the following exceptions:

1.) Duly incorporated humane societies are exempt.
2.) Breeders who sell or offer to sell less than 25 dogs and/or cats per year that are born and raised on the breeder’s residential premise are exempt.

Following the receipt of your application by the Department, you will receive an acknowledgment letter.

Within the next several months, an inspection of your facility will take place to insure that you are in compliance with Article 26-A of the Agriculture and Markets Law (Care of Animals by Pet Dealers).

Once your license is approved, you will receive a New York State Pet Dealer’s license number which you may use in advertisements.

Facilities which were not already in operation on July 1, 2002, may not operate until an inspection has taken place and a license is issued.

For more information, please call: (518)457-3502.

David M. Chico, VMD, MPH
Veterinarian II