

Support HF2627

My name is LaSaijha Kleis. I live in Brooklyn Park, MN. In January of 2024 I purchased a Golden Retriever from Four Paws and a Tail, in Blaine Minnesota. I named my dog Juliette. According to my paperwork (provided below), she was born on 10/11/2023 from Pleasant View Kennels. Pleasant View Kennels is located in Utica, MN. Utica is located in Winona County, MN.

In January 2024, I lost my job. This was hard on me financially, but this gave me more time to spend with my dog Juliette. I was committed to raising her and taking care of her. Juliette was very sick. She had stomach issues and would go to the bathroom 20-30 times a night. I was in contact with 4 Paws and a Tail about the issue and they said I needed to take her to Murray Animal Hospital in Blaine MN. Murray Animal Hospital was not helpful in treating Juliette. Eventually I went to Prior Lake Pet Hospital. The vet there looked at all of my paperwork. The vet determined that Four Paws and a Tail had failed to properly give Juliette all of her shots. The vet said that Juliette would need a \$3000 surgery. I had already spent several hundred dollars on vet bills, and this had only been a couple of weeks since purchasing Juliette. I called Four Paws and a Tail and spoke with the manager. She was very rude and the owner, Michael Swanson, would never speak to me.

I returned Juliette to Four Paws and a Tail. They refunded me the money for what I paid for her, but did not pay me the several hundred dollars I spent in vet bills. I don't know what happened to Juliette. Did Four Paws and a Tail give her to a rescue organization? Did they sell her? What did they do?

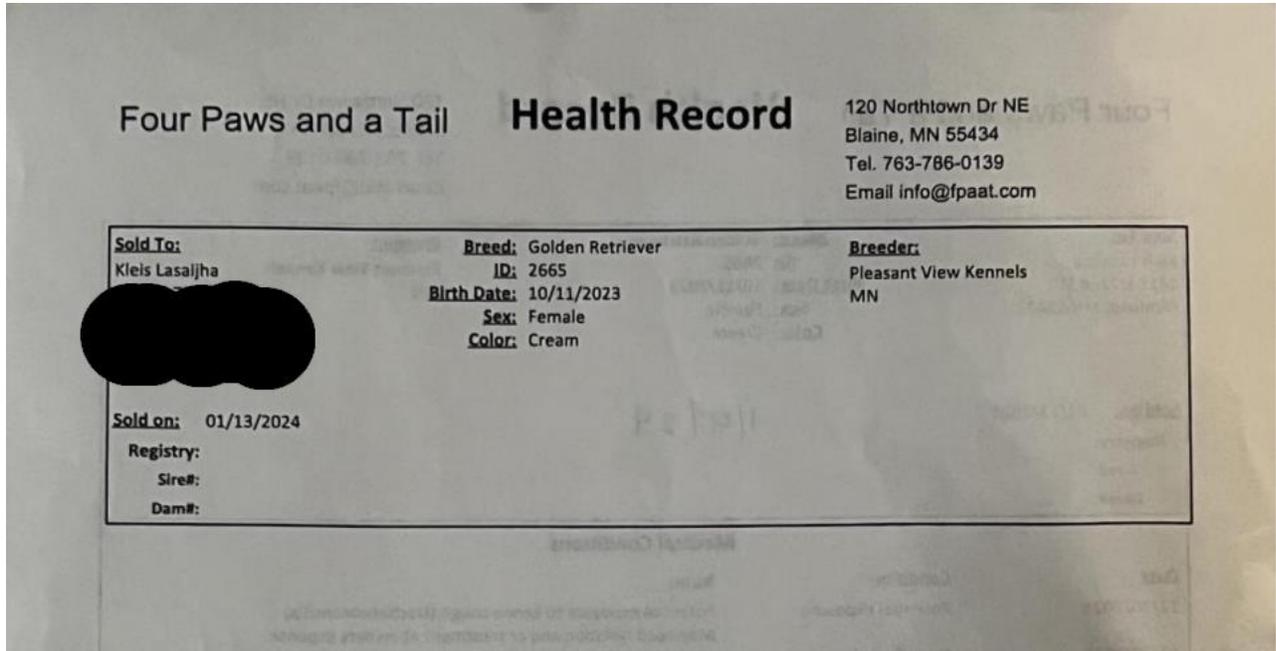
Needless to say, I have still been very upset about all of this and have followed what Four Paws and a Tail has been doing. I did listen to the testimony of Four Paws and a Tail owner Michael Swanson when he testified to the Minnesota Senate on March 9th, 2023. This date is important and shows that Mr. Swanson has not been honest with where he is getting his dogs from. Mr. Swanson stated that, "once in a while, [I get] Golden Retrievers from Utica, Minnesota, who I have also just recently dropped as a breeder." (you can listen to the testimony of this here and this statement starts roughly around the 1:18:30 mark:

[https://mnsenate.granicus.com/player/clip/10779?view\\_id=2&meta\\_id=45336&redirect=true](https://mnsenate.granicus.com/player/clip/10779?view_id=2&meta_id=45336&redirect=true) ). As you can see from my paperwork, I purchased Juliette in January of 2024 from a Golden Retriever breeder in Utica, MN. THIS IS AFTER Mr. Swanson testified to the Minnesota Senate stating that he had dropped this breeder. As I previously mentioned, Utica is in Winona County Minnesota. I raise this because the breeding conditions are so bad there, the County Board has banned any future commercial dog breeders ([https://www.winonapost.com/news/winona-county-votes-to-ban-future-dogbreeders/article\\_8696913e-7eb3-4bd4-9d81-a6fb8cffe517.html#:~:text=After%20nearly%20a%20decade%20of,future%20commercial%20dog%20breeding%20kennels.](https://www.winonapost.com/news/winona-county-votes-to-ban-future-dogbreeders/article_8696913e-7eb3-4bd4-9d81-a6fb8cffe517.html#:~:text=After%20nearly%20a%20decade%20of,future%20commercial%20dog%20breeding%20kennels.))

This summer I took Mr. Swanson to court. I was sick of his lies, sick of the fact that he made me pay vet bills for a sick dog that he sold me. I successfully won my case and was awarded a judgement of several hundred dollars that I had sued for (MN Case 02-CO-25-1216). But not all endings are happy endings for all consumers. I'm aware of another consumer who has sued Four Paws and a Tail / Pet Ranch for roughly \$9,000 for a dog she purchased within this last year (MN Case 02-CO-25-1737). In addition to this, I'm aware of a report from the state of Florida that shows consumer are negatively affected to the tune of \$25 million each year in that state from purchases of sick dogs at pet stores and deceitful sales practices.

In conclusion, my dog Juliette was sick because of negligence on Four Paws and a Tails part. Michael Swanson lied when he testified in the Senate last time. The breeding community where she came from in Utica in Winona County is horrible and the County Board has banned any future dog breeders. Four Paws and a Tail has not been honest about this. Please support HF2627.

Thank you, LaSaijha Kleis



United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

KWIL  
INS-000096

### Inspection Report

PLEASANT VIEW KENNEL LLC  
27768 Cemetary Rd  
Utica, MN 55979

Customer ID: **334124**  
Certificate: **41-A-0493**  
Site: 001

PLEASANT VIEW KENNEL LL

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 03-APR-2024