



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Division of Animal and Food Industry Services

Office of Veterinary Services

PO Box 1163, Richmond, Virginia 23218

Phone: 804-692-4001 • Fax: 804-371-2380 • Hearing Impaired: 800-828-1120

www.vdacs.virginia.gov

Charles Green
Commissioner

February 3, 2026

Certified Mail

Ken Larking, City Manager
City of Danville
P.O. Box 3300
Danville, VA 24543

Notice of Violation and Opportunity for Good Faith Consideration

Case Number: 2615

Dear Mr. Larking,

This notice is being sent to you as the representative of the local governing body as referenced in Virginia Code section §3.2-6546.

On November 19, 2025, the Office of Veterinary Services (OVS) Animal Care Inspector performed an unannounced inspection of the Danville Public Animal Shelter. The inspection report, which includes the Letter of Notification, was previously sent to your attention and a copy is enclosed with this Notice for your review (Enclosure 1). Please read the full inspection report (Enclosure 1) for items not detailed in this letter. Although the animal shelter was provided a brief outline of the inspection results on November 19, 2025, you may also wish to forward this detailed inspection report to your animal shelter for review if you have not already done so.

During the inspection, the Inspector noted two repeat non-critical violations of the Code of Virginia and/or Virginia Administrative Code. Each finding is detailed below.

2VAC5-111-30, subsection B, states, *each facility shall engage a licensed veterinarian to develop or ratify a protocol for the control of infectious and contagious disease and shall adhere to such protocol. Each facility shall provide a marked isolation room for the confinement of animals suffering from a contagious or infectious disease.*

The Inspector observed that the shelter had not adhered to the veterinarian's protocol for the control of contagious and infectious disease and had not maintained an isolation room with suitable enclosures



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for cats suffering from contagious or infectious disease. This is the second violation of this regulation in the last five calendar years and was previously cited on May 21, 2025 (Enclosure 2).

§ 3.2-6546, subsection E, states, *nothing in this section shall prohibit the immediate euthanasia of a critically injured, critically ill, or unweaned animal for humane purposes. Any animal euthanized pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be euthanized by one of the methods prescribed or approved by the State Veterinarian.*

The Inspector observed that the shelter did not adhere to the State Veterinarian's "Methods Prescribed or Approved for Animal Euthanasia and Competency Certification Requirements." Please see the full inspection report for specific findings. This is the second violation of this regulation in the last five calendar years and was previously cited on December 10, 2024 (Enclosure 3).

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 3.2-6546 (K), the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services has authorized the Office of Veterinary Services to assess a civil penalty for such violations. Therefore, this office is notifying you of the aforementioned facts and giving you an opportunity to provide any additional and/or relevant facts to the Office of Veterinary Services within 30 calendar days of receipt of this Notice of Violation and Opportunity for Good Faith Consideration. You may also submit facts or a definitive plan that demonstrate a good-faith attempt to achieve compliance, including a date by which you will achieve full compliance. Your efforts will then be considered in determining the fact of any violation and any civil penalty, which may be issued under the Code of Virginia § 3.2-6546 (K).

Upon receipt of any additional, relevant facts, or at the end of the above time period for providing such facts, and if this office decides that the above facts and any others made known to it indicate a violation of the Comprehensive Animal Care Laws or relevant sections of the Virginia Administrative Code, this office may take enforcement action including the assessment of a civil penalty.

The City of Danville may be assessed a civil penalty of up to \$750.00 for the preceding violations. The process by which each civil penalty is calculated is outlined in the Office of Veterinary Services Civil Penalty Matrix (Enclosure 4). This office may also choose to lessen or dismiss such civil penalties at its discretion. A second notice will be sent to City of Danville informing you of the final decision.

Please contact my office by phone (840-692-4001) or email (animalcare@vdacs.virginia.gov) if you have questions regarding this Notice of Violation and Opportunity for Good Faith Consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Lane Songer, DVM". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "S" for Songer.

H. Lane Songer, DVM
Animal Care Veterinary Supervisor
Office of Veterinary Services

Enclosures:

1. Copy of the November 19, 2025 Inspection Report for Danville Public Animal Shelter
2. Copy of the May 21, 2025 Inspection Report for Danville Public Animal Shelter
3. Copy of the December 10, 2024 Inspection Report for Danville Public Animal Shelter
4. "Comprehensive Animal Law and Related Regulations Civil Penalty Matrix"