

Woman fined \$11,000 for operating a pet farm without a licence and keeping unlicensed dogs

14 June 2017: 39-year-old Lin Xiaoqun was fined \$11,000 in court today for one count of operating a pet farm without a licence and five counts of keeping unlicensed dogs. Four other charges of keeping unlicensed dogs were taken into consideration in the sentencing.

2 On 3 February 2017, AVA conducted an inspection at Ethans Pet Resort, a pet shop at Sungei Tengah Road. AVA inspectors found several dog kennels in a room at the back of the pet shop, where 10 adult dogs and four puppies were being kept. These dogs were not part of the pet shop's official records – which is a list of all the dogs for sale that pet shops are required by AVA to maintain. Nine out of the 10 adult dogs were also not licensed.



An unlicensed adult Shiba Inu dog and her four puppies, which were found in a back room of the pet shop (Photo: AVA)

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Two unlicensed Weimaraner dogs were amongst the 10 adult dogs used for illegal breeding at a pet shop (Photo: AVA)

3 Upon questioning, Lin, the licensee of Ethans Pet Resort, admitted to using the 10 adult dogs for illegal breeding of puppies for sale at her pet shop premises. AVA instructed Lin to stop the illegal breeding activities immediately. Lin voluntarily surrendered the 10 adult dogs and four puppies to AVA. Subsequently, we worked with our rehoming partners to successfully rehome all 14 dogs.

4 A pet farm licence is required for breeding dogs for sale. Anyone found guilty of operating an unlicensed pet farm can be fined up to \$10,000 and/or jailed up to 12 months. In addition, all owned dogs must be licensed with AVA. Anyone found guilty of keeping unlicensed dogs can be fined up to \$5,000.

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