

The dog that HSUS mention in their press release of December 12, 2018, a Maltese, arrived at Petland Las Vegas as a 9-week-old puppy on 23 October 2018. Upon arrival the Maltese was examined by our staff and our vet and found to be healthy. However, a few weeks later the Maltese showed signs of a severe Upper Respiratory Infection (URI) and was sent to our Vet, Blue Cross Animal Hospital, where they treated the dog. After various treatments, the dog was x-rayed and found to have a narrow air passage resulting in difficult breathing. This condition was diagnosed as a birth defect. We called the distributor and they agreed that the dog should go back to the breeder. The dog returned to Petland Las Vegas from our Vet on Nov 19th and was transported back to our distributor on November 20 with a Vet certificate validating its health to travel.

The video and accusations about this dog by the so called "HSUS investigator" were made on Nov 19th. The investigator was in fact one of our employees who made the video. She had only been on staff for 3 days and mysteriously disappeared without notice on November 19. (This person was a HSUS agent or spy which we hired unknowingly as a kennel tech.) We later found that this employee had been dismissed from two police departments under mysterious causes. She completely fabricated her employment application and generally did little to no work while she was in our employ. The spy also called Las Vegas City animal control office about the condition of this dog. Animal control investigated on Nov 19th, including the vet records on file – and they concluded that there was no issue. We have a copy of their inspection giving us clearance.

To be clear, the Maltese was under constant observation by Petland and our Vet for the 4 weeks that it was in Las Vegas. At no time was the dog ignored or suffering. The dog is healthy but is unsellable due to its birth defect. Both Petland and our Vet went the extra mile to care for the animal.