FACT SHEET: ARIZONA GREYHOUND DEATH TOLL

Tucson — October 2006
According to Arizona Department of Racing records, 177 greyhounds hauled from Tucson Greyhound Park by Colorado breeder Rick Favreau are missing and presumed dead. The dogs were allegedly destined for northwest adoption groups, but Favreau, who was contracted by TGP, was unable to provide any documentation of the greyhounds’ whereabouts.

Tucson — July 2005
The Animal Cruelty Task Force of Southern Arizona raided a kennel facility housing greyhounds that had recently raced at Tucson Greyhound Park. Seventy-six dogs were seized and taken to Pima Animal Care and Control. Many of the dogs were suffering from severe hair loss, mange, flea and tick infestation and internal parasites; two died.

Tucson — June 2005
At least eight greyhounds died of heatstroke while in transport from Tucson Greyhound Park to the racetrack in Juarez, Mexico. Thirty-five dogs were loaded into a trailer meant to hold 20. Tucson trainer and kennel operator Jesse Burgess failed to give water to the dogs during the five-hour drive and six-hour delay at the border.

Maricopa — October 2002
The Arizona Department of Racing revoked the license of a Maricopa breeder after a four-month undercover surveillance operation revealed he was using live rabbits to train racing greyhounds. More than 200 rabbits were found at the farm; 180 had to be euthanized.

Tucson — March 2000
Eighteen greyhounds suffered broken bones while racing at Tucson Greyhound Park. Two greyhounds died, one from a broken neck after hitting the wall, one from unknown causes.

Marana — August 1999
Three greyhounds died of unknown causes at an unlicensed breeding kennel; another greyhound in the kennel suffered a stroke while whelping five puppies, all of which died.

Tucson — June 1999
Pima Animal Control euthanized 17 young, healthy greyhounds at the request of a kennel owner. After receiving a complaint from Arizona Greyhound Rescue, the state racing department fined the kennel owner for violating a regulation stating that “every effort” be made to adopt “retired” greyhounds.

Phoenix — September 1997
A female greyhound and her five puppies were found malnourished at a breeding kennel. Other dogs in the kennel were infested with parasites and were found in deplorable conditions.

Apache Junction — February 1997
Eight racing greyhounds in the kennels at Apache Greyhound Park were diagnosed with canine distemper and euthanized. Seven puppies were found dead during a follow-up inspection of the owner’s Avondale breeding farm by the Arizona Department of Racing.

Tucson — August 1996
An emaciated racing greyhound was found wandering in the desert near one of the Tucson track’s kennel compounds. The dog was infested with ticks and fleas and had open wounds. A veterinarian stated her condition resulted from lengthy neglect and confinement.

Tucson — March 1994
Thirteen racing greyhounds were illegally sold for research to the University of Arizona without the permission of their registered owners; 12 of the 13 were rescued. In 1993, 120 greyhounds died in research labs at the U of A.

Phoenix — February 1993
Ten emaciated greyhounds were found near death, abandoned in a chain-linked, padlocked kennel. Some of the dogs were half their normal weight.

Tucson — June 1992
Five extremely emaciated greyhounds, found on urine covered bedding in dirty pens without sufficient water, were among seven greyhounds seized by Pima Animal Control. The dogs were suffering from excessive sores caused from insufficient bedding.

Chandler Heights — January 1992
The decomposing bodies of 143 racing greyhounds were found in an abandoned citrus orchard. The dogs had been shot to death and their tattooed ears had been cut off to prevent identification. The killing field made national headlines.

Phoenix — September 1990
Two extremely emaciated female greyhounds were discovered in a dumpster outside a Phoenix kennel. The dogs, still alive, had been bludgeoned with a claw hammer; they were later euthanized. Inside the kennel, another dog was found dead and approximately 70 others were in poor condition.

Tucson — July 1990
More than 100 skeletal greyhounds were carried out of a racing kennel by Pima Animal Control; only 40 of the dogs survived.

Yuma — June 1990
Forty-four dead greyhounds were found at an abandoned, makeshift kennel near Yuma, where some of the dogs had raced. The dogs died of extreme heat and starvation. The kennel operator was located, arrested, and charged with 70 counts of animal cruelty.

Yuma — 1990
Thirty-six greyhounds near death from starvation were discovered in January, two weeks after they were abandoned in the track kennel compound. The dogs, still muzzled in their cages, were barely alive. Six of the dogs are known to have died.

Arizona — 1988-89
Six hundred racing greyhounds were collected from Arizona kennels and sold into research labs by two Arizona dog dealers. Most of the dogs [400] were sold to W. L. Gore, a private research lab in Flagstaff. The others were sold to 11 research labs in Arizona and California; 53 of the 600 greyhounds were rescued.