



# Washington Humane Society WHS/SPCA

7319 Georgia Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20012 202/333-4010

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December 27, 1982

Dr. Alan Berger  
64511 Hartway  
Romeo, Michigan 48065

Dear Dr. Berger:

This is in response to your queries about David Wills, a former employee of the Washington Humane Society.

I have examined David Wills' resumé, which you forwarded to me. Certain information given in this resumé is, according to our records and my personal knowledge, untrue. For example, his resumé states that Wills obtained a B.S. in Journalism from the University of Maryland in 1974 and an M.S. from the same school in 1976. To our knowledge, David Wills had neither degree when he was employed by the Washington Humane Society in 1976. He did say that he was taking a night course in Journalism and was working toward a bachelor's degree. This was never verified. I recall that we were pleased to learn that he was taking writing instruction, since his writing skills were very poor.

The resumé indicates that, from January 1974 to January 1975, Wills worked for the Montgomery S.P.C.A. as a kennel worker and an animal paramedic. The Montgomery County S.P.C.A. has never owned or operated an animal shelter, to our knowledge.

The resumé also indicates that from January 1975 to November 1975 Wills worked as an investigator for the Washington Humane Society. David Wills never worked for the Washington Humane Society in 1975.

The next line on the resumé indicates that, from November 1975 to November 1976, Wills worked for the Washington Humane Society as Director of Cruelty Investigations, responsible for a staff of five. This is not accurate.

HUMANEWATCH.ORG

December 27, 1982

Our records show that David Wills began his employment with the Washington Humane Society in the last week of January 1976, when he was hired as a Humane Officer. He responded to an employment ad that the Washington Humane Society had placed in the local newspaper. Wills worked for the WHS/SPCA for approximately nine months - from the last week in January 1976 until early November 1976.

Preceding and during the period of Wills' employment here, the Washington Humane Society was in the midst of what was probably the most difficult period in its 112-year history. There were two factions within the membership that were polarized over the firing of the Society's Executive Director. Mid-way through Wills' tenure here, every member of the Board of Directors resigned and an entirely new Board of Directors took over management of the Society.

Various members of the Board, including myself, found that David Wills exacerbated this unfortunate situation by contacting Board members and playing one faction against the other. Minutes of Board meetings show that in April of 1976 the acting Executive Director, George Hall, recommended to the Board that David Wills be fired because he had "an uncooperative attitude and was a disruptive influence in the organization." Wills presented his case to the Board of Directors, who voted to place him on two weeks' probation rather than fire him.

Wills was given the title "Director of Cruelty Investigations" for a few months. During that time, he was responsible for the other two Humane Officers who were then in the Society's employ.

Toward the end of Wills' time here, internal stability returned to the WHS/SPCA. Those who then became responsible for the Society's operations, myself included, made the decision that David Wills would have to be let go because his work was unacceptable and his attitude toward his work was poor. Wills may have sensed this decision, because he contacted our President, Bianca Beary, and said that he would resign if she would write him a letter of recommendation.

Wills had previously threatened to call the press if a demand he had made to the Society was not met. He did get one television station to cover derogatory statements he made against the WHS/SPCA. Given this experience and the strife the Society was just recovering from, Mrs. Beary felt that she should write the letter of recommendation in hopes that Wills would quietly leave the Washington Humane Society. David Wills submitted his letter of resignation the day after receiving this letter of recommendation from Mrs. Beary. (I have enclosed copies of both letters.)

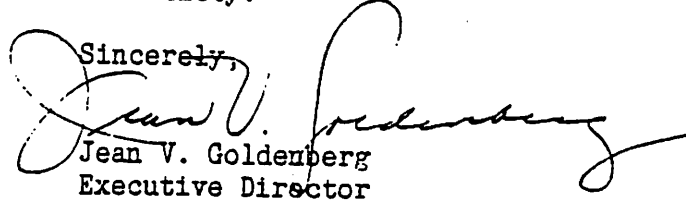
WES/SPCA

December 27, 1982

Also enclosed please find a resumé of David Keith Wills, prepared while he was the employee of the Washington Humane Society. It appears that there are significant discrepancies between this resumé and the "Confidential Resumé" that you forwarded.

I regret having to write such a negative report about someone who was employed by the Washington Humane Society.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean V. Goldenberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jean V. Goldenberg  
Executive Director

Encls



MACOMB VETERINARY ASSOCIATES

48024 VAN DYKE AVENUE • UTICA, MICHIGAN 48087 • (313) 731-2600

December 30, 1982

Mrs. Jean Goldenberg  
Washington HS/SPCA  
7319 Georgia Ave N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012

Dear Mrs. Goldenberg,

Thank you very much for the reply to my inquiry regarding David Wills. I believe your letter will have a well deserved impact regarding the study of the background of David Wills. This information, added to the other information that's been gathered, makes an incredible record regarding his history. Interestingly, we still don't know where he was from 1972 to 1976.

I'll keep you posted as this investigation evolves and the outcome.

I would appreciate, it if any individuals contact you regarding this matter, that you not mention my name or even involve veterinarians specifically, in case Wills is able to survive.

Thank you again, and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,



Alan F. Berger, D.V.M.

AFB/il