

**From:** Verna Riparip <verna.riparip@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 29, 2024 6:36 AM  
**To:** Jose Gonzalez; Felix Lopez  
**Subject:** Fwd: Codes

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Lorna Esparza <[Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 12:11 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Codes  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED], Jose Gonzalez <[jose.gonzalez@lacity.org](mailto:jose.gonzalez@lacity.org)>, Felix Lopez <[felix.lopez@lacity.org](mailto:felix.lopez@lacity.org)>, Verna Riparip <[verna.riparip@lacity.org](mailto:verna.riparip@lacity.org)>

Hello [REDACTED], I am no longer with the Department of Animal Services. Please direct your inquiries to the Permit Section and/or their supervisor, they are all included in this email. Just for the record, no one has been "whispering in" my ear. I was provided with two specific complaints, complaints that were discussed with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] when she was interviewed. These complaints were investigated and discussed at length in the interview. [REDACTED] researched the two dogs and provided documentation.

Thank you,

On Tue, Feb 27, 2024 at 10:38 AM [REDACTED] wrote:  
We still have not received a response to our email of January 27, 2024. Please renew the kennel licence immediately. Our clients made a timely application to renew and paid the fee.

We are also continuing to discover the network of individuals who have been whispering in your ear and trying to put our clients out of business. Those individuals have made numerous false statements, both to you and to others. Please review the attached verified Complaint which sets out some of what they have been doing. We anticipate that, as we learn more, that that case will continue to expand.

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 12:25 PM [REDACTED] > wrote:  
Please provide written evidence of notice that the kennel permit would be revoked or not renewed. Also, please provide the factual and legal basis for that action.

All rights and remedies are, of course, reserved.

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 12:22 PM Lorna Esparza <[Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)> wrote:

They were informed that she will no longer be allowed to operate with a kennel permit, that she is required to apply for a Pet Shop Permit. They asked for a grace period for compliance and it was granted as the other permit expired on December 8, 2023. The grace period is generally thirty days and because she claimed that it would take her additional time, she has been given additional time. The deadline of this grace period is February 29, 2023. This is the decision of the Department. Have her apply for a Pet Shop Permit and an inspection will be completed to verify she is in compliance with the requirements.

Thank you,

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 12:11 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Melissa applied to renew the kennel license, and paid the fee. Neither [REDACTED] nor [REDACTED] ever agreed to change that to a pet shop license. Please renew the kennel permit.

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 11:51 AM Lorna Esparza <[Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)> wrote:

Hello [REDACTED], this was discussed during our interview with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. They were both informed that she would no longer be allowed to operate with a kennel permit, that based upon her operational activities, she was to operate under a Pet Shop Permit. This was made very clear to both of them that this would be the direction. She was told that the fees she had paid for the kennel permit would not be processed and what would be required of her moving forward. Please discuss this with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as they were present and made fully aware of what was instructed.

Thank you,

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 11:32 AM [REDACTED] > wrote:

I'm confused by your email. [REDACTED] never applied for a pet shop permit. She does not run a pet shop, and does not need such a permit. She has a kennel permit. She applied to renew it in a timely fashion, and paid the application fee. As I read the Municipal Code, you cannot simply refuse to renew her to license without cause and Due Process.

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 11:10 AM Lorna Esparza <[Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)> wrote:

Hello [REDACTED] and the legal team, happy New Year. I wanted to check back with you about your progress on obtaining a Pet Shop Permit. Our Department will grant until February 29, 2024 for you to obtain a Pet Shop Permit at your current location or any other location within the City of Los Angeles that you will be in operation. If you are planning on vacating the current location, please notify us as your permit to operate expired and the Permit Officers will have to verify and update your information within our computer system.

Thank you, please let me know if you have any questions,

On Mon, Dec 4, 2023 at 12:24 PM Lorna Esparza <[Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)> wrote:

My apologies and will do, thank you.

On Mon, Dec 4, 2023 at 12:19 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Ms. Esparza, please include [REDACTED] (copied here) on any correspondence going forward. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Dec 4, 2023 at 12:15 PM Lorna Esparza <[Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)> wrote:

Hello, please see attached codes. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information. I have not heard yet from the General Manager as to the timeframe for the change in permit.

Thank you,

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**L. Esparza**  
District Supervisor  
**Los Angeles Animal Services**  
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 600  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
**W:** (213) 482-9558  
**E:** [Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org](mailto:Lorna.Esparza@lacity.org)

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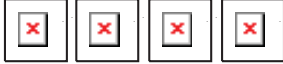


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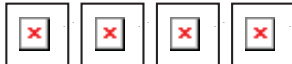
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