

GREY2K USA WORLDWIDE



January 4, 2023

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In Memoriam

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Organization Listing is for
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Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism Nguyễn Văn Hùng
Minister of Trade Nguyễn Hồng Dien
Vice Minister of Finance Nguyễn Đức Chi

Dear Mr. President and Honorable Ministers,

My name is Christine Dorchak and I am the President and General Counsel of greyhound protection group, GREY2K USA Worldwide. I am writing to respectfully urge you to require that all racing greyhounds in Vietnam be released for adoption. My organization is experienced in such matters and stands ready to help with this transition.

Our request is timely in that we understand that Lam Son Stadium will soon be closing down. This is welcome news and we sincerely applaud you for refusing to renew the Sports Entertainment Services concession and to repurpose the property for more modern and popular uses. In 2012, one of our board members visited the Ba Ria Breeding Center that services Lam Son. She found the dogs living in individual cages with no access to water or proper bedding.

“I witnessed conditions there firsthand. There were just so many dogs. The greyhound farm was spread out on a large piece of remote rural property with five or six buildings holding about 100 greyhounds each. There was a separate breeding facility where I saw adorable greyhound puppies that were about five weeks old. I also saw a large bus which transports dogs from the kennels to Lam Son to race, about a fifty minute drive each way. The cages are double-stacked inside the bus to accommodate all the dogs transported at one time. I let the kennel worker know that I wanted to adopt and he said no, there is no adoption program. He would not say what happens to the unwanted dogs.” (Charmaine Settle, 2012)

More recent investigations have revealed that these poor conditions have not changed. While there seem to be as far fewer greyhounds than before, there is still no adoption program in place. No dog gets out alive, other than those who may be sent to a nearby university.

Please let me know how we may help to provide a safe transition for the Lam Son greyhounds. In 2018, after the Macau government ordered the closure of the Canidrome, we brought 532 surviving dogs to waiting adoption groups across the globe. Beijing required the track owner to underwrite flight costs and we sponsored the care of the dogs thereafter. I hope you will consider a similar arrangement for Vietnam’s greyhounds as well, thus sending a message to the world that Vietnam truly cares about dogs.

Please contact me so that we may work together.

Respectfully,

Christine A. Dorchak, Esq.