

# Nearly 200 dogs rescued from filthy home of Westminster-winning breeder

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Monmouth County SPCA

Nearly 200 dogs were rescued from a squalid New Jersey home belonging to a Westminster Kennel Club prize-winning breeder, according to officials and a report.

Animal rescue was called to a home Tuesday in Kingwood Township where 18 pooches were found dead and 170 seized in what officials are calling a “hoarding case,” [according to the Monmouth County SPCA](#).

Another 30 dogs had been surrendered ahead of the rescue operation, the Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office said.

“All of these dogs seem to have had limited human contact and minimal to no veterinary care,” the SPCA said. “Some of the dogs are pregnant and have masses and infections so will most definitely need extra care.”

The furry friends reportedly had been living in the home and garage of a top breeder, whose dogs have won Best in Breed awards from the Westminster Kennel Club, [according to NBC New York](#).

“The animal cruelty investigation is ongoing and charges are still pending,” the Hunterdon County Prosecutor’s Office said.

The prosecutor’s office declined to comment on whether the homeowner was in custody.

The SPCA and St. Hubert’s Animal Welfare Center started working at 8 a.m. Tuesday to bring the dogs to “safety” and continued throughout the day, according to officials.

Photos from the organization showed some of the dogs were emaciated. It was not immediately clear what breed of pooch was kept at the home.

Many of the dogs are suffering from skin infections and parasites while others are in need of vaccinations and surgery, according to the St. Hubert’s, which assisted with the triage and removal.

The groups are asking for money to cover the pooches’ medical bills, as well as blankets, towels, sheets, dog food and toys.

“These dogs are not currently up for adoption and we do not have information on when they will be,” the SPCA said. “The dogs will need time to decompress, need to be medically cleared, spayed/neutered, and assessed behaviorally before they will be ready to meet potential adopters.”

A rep for the Westminster Kennel Club didn’t respond to request for comment, according to NBC New York.