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DENVER DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH Division of Animal Care and Control

DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

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MAN CONVICTED OF ANIMAL CRUELTY

A puppy breeder from South Dakota has been found guilty by a Denver jury of cruelty to animals.

Dwight Young (dob: 07-31-49) was convicted yesterday of 19 separate counts of cruelty to animals, a class 1 misdemeanor. Denver Deputy District Attorney Diane Balkin prosecuted the case.

Young was charged in March 2006 after officials with Denver's Animal Care and Control discovered 2 dogs and 17 puppies confined in filthy, deplorable conditions in the back of Young's truck. Young, who was in town trying to sell the animals, was served a Criminal Summons and Complaint. The animals were rescued and were all later adopted through Denver Animal Care and Control.

Young is scheduled to be sentenced on June 19, 2008. He faces up to 18 months in the Denver County Jail.

Doug Kelley with Denver Animal Care and Control says Young's conviction for cruelty may also make him ineligible for a Pet Animal Care and Facilities license in the future.