DOT Animal Incident Report - April 2007 - Detailed

### Incident 1

Carrier:	Alaska Airlines
Flight:	215
Date of incident:	4/17/07
Time of incident:	(During-flight) between 6:15a PT -1:05p PT

Description of animal (including name): 11-year-old Dog (named Betsy) The ramp lead observed Betsy with one eye partially closed and tearing up prior to the flight.

Narrative description of incident: (in flight passing)

A dog traveling in the animal hold, passed away during the flight, due to an unknown cause. When the owner was told of the pet's death, they mentioned that Betsy had been under stress during the family's move.

Narrative description of the cause of the incident: Unknown cause.

Narrative description of any corrective action taken in response to the incident: Absent known cause, no action required beyond appropriate communication with Betsy's owners.

Incident 2

Carrier:	Alaska Airlines
Flight:	715
Date of incident:	4/28/07
Time of incident:	Approx. 4:45p PT

Description of animal (including name): Small Poodle Dog (named Buddy)

Narrative description of incident: (in flight passing)

A pet dog traveling in the animal hold escaped from a two-piece kennel and ran across Seattle ramp/runways and directly into large group of blackberry bushes. The owner and her granddaughter were able to call Buddy out of the blackberry bushes within seconds, however Buddy was bleeding from at least two paws and had a possible loss of one toenail.

Narrative description of the cause of the incident: Two-piece kennel allowed pet to escape during the connection flight/transfer in Seattle, WA

Narrative description of any corrective action taken in response to the incident: We have reminded Ticket counter agents to inspect two-piece kennels prior to acceptance, to ensure animal will be secure. We will also continue to suggest that owners secure kennels with zip ties to ensure that they stay in the upright position during use.

Name, title, address and telephone number of the individual filing the report on behalf of the air carrier:

Redacted

# Animal Incident Report to the U.S. Department of Transportation Pursuant to 14 CFR § 234.13

Reporting Period: April 1 - 30, 2007

# REDACTED

#### May 15, 2007

# TOTAL ANIMALS SHPPED DURING REPORTING PERIOD:7,344TOTAL REPORTABLE INCIDENTS DURING PERIOD:2% OF REPORTABLE INCIDENTS TO ANIMALS HANDLED:0.0002%

#### **INCIDENT #1:**

Flt #667 Houston - Anchorage April 26, 2007

Dog - Female / 4 years old Breed: Bull Mastiff Name: Ethel

#### Owner/Guardian REDACTED

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#### Narrative Description: Description of the Incident:

Upon arrival into Seattle, which was a stopover on the way to Anchorage, Ms. Allen's 2 dogs were checked and we found the female deceased in her kennel.

#### Description of the Cause of the Incident:

Because there was no apparent cause, a necropsy was performed on the animal. The necropsy determined that, "...on evaluation of the heart muscle the primary histologic lesion found was multifocal myocardial fibrosis... which caused arrhythmias that could have contributed to the death of the animal."

#### Description of any corrective action taken:

None. The death was not transit related. The animal died of a pre-existing heart condition.

#### **INCIDENT #2:**

Flt #1 Honolulu - Guam February 27, 2007 Cat - Male / 1 year old Breed: Dom. Short Hair Name: Milo

Owner/Guardian REDACTED

# Narrative Description:

## Description of the Incident:

Upon arrival of the flight into Guam, the agents noticed the cat's kennel was empty. He apparently escaped his crate at or near the aircraft upon loading in Honolulu. Additionally, Continental worked closely with U.S. Fish and Wildlife to search for Milo at Honolulu Airport after he was spotted in the area. Officials set traps for Milo and reward posters were distributed throughout the airport area. A reward of up to \$500 was offered for the return of the cat but attempts to capture him were unsuccessful. The owner was then flown from Guam back to Honolulu for the weekend at Continental's expense to search for her lost cat, but she was unable to find him. To date, no additional sightings have been noted and we are officially closing the file and compensating the customer for her loss.

#### Description of the Cause of the Incident:

The kennel door (top loading) were closed upon arrival into Guam. Apparently, the animal was able to push his way out of the crate by pushing on the kennel's door.

### Description of any corrective action taken:

Local agents were coached regarding watching crates carefully as they're loaded. All Continental policies appeared to have been followed, including the use of zip ties on the kennel's door (which were still in place upon arrival into Guam).