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April 17, 2018

Diane E. Brown, DVM, Ph.D., DACVP
CEO, AKC Canine Health Foundation
PO Box, 900061
Raleigh, North Carolina 27675

Re: Research on PRA in Springers

Dear Diane,

On behalf of the ESS Foundation, I am writing to you to forward the three enclosures and to formally request that CHF consider circulating to the scientific community an RFP relative to PRA in Springers. Hopefully, CHF will thereafter be able to conclude that one or more grant applications meet all CHF requirements, with the result that new research on the part of qualified scientists will be funded and will then commence.

Our Foundation has already raised some funds for PRA research, and we anticipate launching a further fund-raising effort in the ESS fancy, if and when new approved grants for research for PRA in Springers are announced. We are mindful of the AKC's match challenge, and we are fine with channeling whatever contributions our Foundation can make to the new PRA research through our Foundation's Donor Advised Fund, which we understand is one key to making our support eligible for the AKC match.

Before going further, we want to again thank you for organizing the meeting on PRA that involved numerous researchers, ESS fanciers in attendance, and others at your Conference in St. Louis last August. Immediately after your Conference, we engaged Jerry Bell as a consultant to our Foundation in connection with PRA matters. He has just completed a finalized Report, dated March 24, 2018, a copy of which is enclosed. As you can see, we had asked Jerry to recap the

current state of research into PRA affecting Springers, as well as to submit to us his recommendations.

Regarding Jerry Bell's recommendation as to a voluntary data base especially focused on Springers diagnosed as PRA affected, our Board unanimously approved such recommendation at its annual meeting teleconference in February, provided we can work out an arrangement with OFA and CHIC to administrate the data base. We also will seek approval from the ESSFTA, our Parent Club, at its annual meeting late April in Phoenix. We will keep you posted on developments on the voluntary data base matter.


The second enclosure accompanying this letter is a "draft RFP" that we have prepared. We fully understand that, if CHF decides to go forward with an RFP to the scientific community, it will finalize its own version of one. Accordingly, the enclosed work product from us is not something that we would actually use beyond our own internal discussions; instead, we simply thought that, if we took a crack at drafting an RFP, our work product might be helpful to you and others associated with CHF in crafting your own RFP. We did ask Jerry Bell to review our draft, as well a couple of other scientists with whom we have worked in the past. Feel free to use whatever verbiage in our draft that you desire or to disregard some or all of it, in your sole discretion.

You will note that the enclosed draft RFP is marked "Confidential." Such designation is intended as a reminder to our people that, for the time being, a copy of it is not to be provided to anyone not on our Board or on the ESSFTA Board. It is not intended as any kind of restriction on CHF's use of the draft within its own circles. Once the CHF RFP is finalized, our draft RFP would probably then be academic; but, in all events, we will then release the "hold" on it, just in case anyone from our constituency at that time wants to see it.

The third enclosure is a copy of a Report from our Board to the "ESS Fancy," which we have just posted and which is self-explanatory.

We look forward to hearing back from you at your convenience; and let us know whatever we can do to be helpful.

Sincerely,



Nancy Johnson,
President

Cc: David Hopkins

Attachments:

Exhibit 1: Dr. Bell Report

Exhibit 2: Draft RFP

Exhibit 3: Foundation Letter to the Springer Fancy