



Thank you for your interest in a Ciera Stafford.

I do not have anything available at this time. I have provided some information below and places to check out that I hope will help you in your search.

You can check out www.sbtca.com “finding a Stafford” and go to breeder referrals. There is a pdf you can upload as the map is not working at this time. While there take a moment to read the Code of Ethics so you can get an idea of what to expect from a responsible breeder.

You might also consider joining one or both of these Facebook Groups

Staffords in America Debates and Topics

Good group of knowledgeable owners and breeders who will answer questions and steer you in the right directions.

Staffordshire Bull Terrier Pups - North America

Litters available from health tested parents. This is a new group dedicated to helping people in North America locate breeders who are health testing breeding stock.

Contracts are common place nowadays. Please ask about contracts upfront to avoid signing blindly while your kids are holding a puppy. Make sure you are aware of the long term implications of the contract you are signing. If your breeder requires a deposit make sure to understand terms to have a deposit refunded. Some deposits are non-refundable and this can be difficult when putting money on a pup from a litter that is not yet born with the promise of a future litter. In breeding we all know Mother Nature is in charge.

Health is an important issue in dogs today. Ask your potential breeder what their breeding stock is health tested for. There is a lot of information on the SBTCA website. All breeders should be able to provide proof of Hereditary Cataracts, L2HGA, and PHPV clear. It is also good to have hips, elbows xrayed and knees checked. Puppies as young as 8 weeks can and should have their eyes checked prior to going to their new homes. Make sure copies of health certificates are provided in your puppy pack. Health testing is no guarantee of the long term health of your dog but it does suggest the breeder is conscientious and health is an important issue to them. There are many health issues that are out of your breeder's control but your breeder should be there for you thru the life of your dog. An experienced breeder can save you money and heart break by offering years of breed specific experience in the advice they give you. Vet bills are out of the roof these days. I have a 10 year old female that has rarely if ever been to the vet, I

have others who have been multiple times. Please check www.sbtca.com for more information on health testing.

Temperament means everything in a pet. Some topics to discuss in addition to health, contracts, and deposits are temperament and drive of the sire and dam. If you want a couch potato don't buy from high drive lines. Terriers are tenacious and busy and often times very high drive. Make sure your breeder understands your lifestyle and how you want your dog to fit in. I have seen more Staffords rehomed due to unrealistic expectations about temperament. Make sure you understand dog laws in your community as well as homeowners insurance, HOA rules and your lease agreement pet restrictions. A Staffordshire Bull Terrier is a great dog but is listed in many communities as dangerous and with restrictions.

My discussion points above are by no means the only things you should discuss with breeders and other Stafford owners but these are hot points lately. No one point is a deal breaker but all things to consider when making the choice to bring a pet into your life for 15 years. I recommend joining the Debate group on Facebook, even though it is a debate group the people are all good and helpful and have years and years of experience behind them.

Words of caution.

- Be wary of breeders that charge above average prices. Average should range from 2000-3000. My pups are 2500 each. Likewise beware of breeders who charge much lower than average. It is very expensive to breed these days with health testing and high costs of getting a female pregnant and the small litter size of our breed. People who charge less may be cutting corners.
- Be wary of non-refundable deposits.
- Do not give money to be put on a wait list. Unless you don't mind the possibility of unlimited waiting.
- If you really want to put money on deposit to hold a pup do it only after the litter is born and preferably after you have been able to visit the puppies and meet the mom and see the conditions of the rearing processes. You should also have a strong sense the breeder understands what you want. Make sure your deposit is specifically for one of the pups in litter XX
- Be wary of breeders who will not let you visit their home and meet the mama and see how the puppies were reared. Stafford pups should be reared in a house and kept clean and have mental enrichment. I would not want my puppy reared in a basement or barn or without proper young pup socialization.
- Be wary of breeders operating outside of the SBTCA network. There can be reasons breeders do not want to participate in the Parent club and one could be that they do not want to adhere to the Club Code of Ethics. In my opinion there is no reason a breeder should not stay connected, it is like continued education in type, temperament and soundness.
- Be wary of breeders who only breed and do not exhibit their dogs in conformation and performance events. Beware of breeders who discount conformation.
- Please do not say none of this matters because I only want a pet. I am pretty sure you want a solid temperament, healthy dog and for the dog to look like a pure bred Staffordshire Bull Terrier, so ALL of this matters.