



HPO O'Donnell: Multiple animals found deceased in Madison Township residence

Accused homeowner, Keri Wolfe, will face a preliminary hearing at Rural Valley MDJ McCausland's office

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A New Bethlehem woman is facing a series of charges of animal cruelty regarding a reported incident in which multiple animals were found deceased at a property in Madison Township.

Keri Beth Wolfe, 43, will tentatively face a preliminary hearing at 1 p.m. March 30 at the office of Rural Valley Magisterial District Judge Kevin Mc- Causland.

The information on the reported incident is available in a criminal complaint, in conjunction with an affidavit of probable cause written by Armstrong County Humane Police Officer (HPO) Chris O'Donnell.

According to the affidavit, on Monday March 22, O'Donnell, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), Humane Officer Deb Urmann, Dr. Becky Morrow, and an assistant from Frankie's Friends searched 230 Bingham Road, in Madison Township, which is owned by Wolfe.

Upon arriving at the scene, O'Donnell said they found six deceased birds located in cages at the back of the house, with no water or food, and a large amount of feces, court papers state.

According to the affidavit, upon entering the home, they found seven deceased dogs, five deceased rabbits, and three deceased felines, with two of the deceased dogs found in one crate.

O'Donnell said skeletal remains of one dog were found in the hallway, which had been eaten by other animals inside the house; one dog was found deceased in a chair; two cats were found deceased in the basement lying together with mold growing on their bodies; three rabbits were found in a tote on the kitchen counter; and one kitten was decomposing in the hallway on top of a black box, court papers state.

According to the affidavit, mobility in the house was difficult due to the "extreme" amount of trash throughout; there were overflowing litter boxes throughout the house; a large amount of feces; a foul smell of decay; some of the animals appeared to be recently deceased, with others deceased for some time; and there was no water or food available for the animals, with unopened wet dog food located in the kitchen.

O'Donnell said there were cats and three dogs that were still alive, with the dogs having low body scores, court papers state.

According to the affidavit, one dog was weak and had difficulty walking, and another dog had numerous sores on his body.

Numerous cats and two dogs were transported to a rescue, while several cats and one small dog still remain at the home.

In total, Wolfe is charged with 22 counts of aggravated cruelty to animals — causing serious bodily injury or death; 22 counts of neglect of animals — sustenance/ water; 22 counts of neglect of animals — shelter/protection; 22 counts of neglect of animals — vet care; 22 counts of cruelty to animals.

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