

First Set of Charges laid in Animal Neglect Investigation

On Friday February 9, 2018, Calgary Humane Society Peace Officers charged Michael Murphy under the Animal Protection Act section 2(1) with causing or permitting to cause an animal to be in distress. This charge carries a maximum \$20,000 fine and up to a lifetime prohibition.

On January 23, 2018, Calgary Humane Society's Protection and Investigations team executed a warrant on a large rural property in southwest Calgary. With the assistance of Calgary Police Service as well as a number of supporting agencies, the warrant did culminate in the seizure of 40 animals in distress including dogs, cats, birds and reptiles.

Brad Nichols, Senior Manager, Animal Cruelty Investigations said, "This charge will hopefully dispel the innocent bystander angle reported by a small segment of media. Mr. Murphy subjected his dog to environmental distress on the Brokop property and the dog was found to require medically necessary veterinary treatment, which was provided. This was the first charge of several to be laid in this case and we will have more to report in the coming weeks. While it can be frustrating to withhold details which would counter irresponsible reporting, I feel that the integrity of the investigation is more important and that the court process will clarify any points of contention."

We appreciate the patience of the public and the media while we work to complete this investigation.



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