



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Contact: Rona Stringfellow
Assistant City Manager
(972) 275-1722 office
(972) 275-1822 fax
rstringfellow@lancaster-tx.com

LANCASTER POLICE INVESTIGATE ANIMAL CRUELTY CASE

Lancaster, TX – On Sunday March 29, 2015 at approximately 1:00 p.m., Lancaster Police Officers and the department's Canine Unit responded to an anonymous 9-1-1 call reporting an illegal animal cruelty operation located on the 200 block of Cheshire Road. The caller stated that behind one of the residences on this street, concealed within a wooded area, are multiple subjects operating and participating in illegal "cockfights".

Upon arrival to the reported area, Officers identified over 40 subjects, surrounded by vehicles, all of which appeared to have cages containing roosters. After the subjects attempted to flee the area, Officers and the Police Canine Unit located and detained 37 adult subjects. Officers discovered multiple items associated with rooster fights as well as several dead and seriously injured roosters. Lancaster Police contacted the SPCA of Texas, who arrived later that day. SPCA officials determined the roosters were living in unfit conditions as a result of animal cruelty. The SPCA of Texas secured and rescued over 120 roosters and approximately 20 to 30 hens. All subjects were identified and multiple charges were filed for Animal Cruelty/Participating in a Cockfight.

This incident is documented under case number 15-001584 and is currently under investigation by the Lancaster Criminal Investigation Division. Should anyone obtain further information regarding this case, they are asked to contact the Lancaster Police Department at (972) 218-2711 or email CID@lancaster-tx.com with anonymous tips.

###