

NEWS RELEASE

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SUFFOLK MAN ARRESTED ON MULTIPLE ANIMAL CRUELTY CHARGES

SUFFOLK, Virginia (October 11, 2018) Suffolk Police have arrested a man on multiple animal cruelty and other charges following an investigation that initially began on July 3, 2018.

Jacob Richard Romes Chappell, age 25, of Suffolk, was arrested on October 10, 2018 on a total of 27 charges including Animal Cruelty (15 counts), Fail to Care for Animals (11 counts), and Torture Dog or Cat Causing Death (1 count) after Suffolk Animal Control responded to a residence in the 5800 block of Mineral Spring Road in order to perform a welfare check on dogs at the location.

During the preliminary investigation a deceased dog was found inside one of the pens next to the residence, along with a dog that was experiencing a heat related health emergency and barely able to stand. There was no water and no shelter in the pen and the animal was seized and taken to a local veterinarian for emergency care. The body of the deceased dog was sent for a necropsy to determine the cause of death.

Additional dogs were in other pens at the residence, several of which had little to no shelter on concrete or dirt floors to the pens and limited access to water during extreme heat conditions. These dogs were also seized due to the threat to their

immediate safety and health. The dogs are in the custody of Suffolk Animal Care and will be available for adoption once they return to full health.

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