



Sheriff J. Al Cannon, Jr., County of Charleston, South Carolina

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NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:
December 27, 2015**

Seizure of Animals

(North Charleston, SC) On December 27, 2015, shortly before 2:00 p.m., North Charleston Police Department requested that deputies with the Charleston County Sheriff Office respond to 8929 Selah Street in North Charleston to assist with locating an assortment of animals, which included rabbits, dogs, and cats, from the residence due to the possibility of neglect. Our deputies observed closed to 100 or more different types of small animals in and around the property. The homeowner advised our deputies that she was trying to help the animals, but was overwhelmed and was in over her head. The living conditions for the animals were deplorable and posed a health risk to the community. Charleston County Sheriff's Office and members of the Charleston Animal Society responded to the scene and seized all animals that were located on the property.

Due to the large scale animal seizure by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, the Charleston Animal Society has placed a temporary moratorium on the intake of animals, effective immediately. This applies to all animals brought in by animal control officers, law enforcement officers and the general public. The only exceptions are dogs that are deemed vicious by animal control officers and any injured animals or other emergencies as approved the Charleston Animal Society.

This incident remains under investigation by the Charleston County Sheriff's Office. Each animal will required to undergo proper evaluation before additional law enforcement action is taken by the Sheriff's Office.

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