

CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
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## CCSO pushes for updated ordinance after Johns Island animal welfare check

2025-005525

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

**NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C.** – The Charleston County Sheriff's Office performed an animal welfare check at a property on Johns Island on the morning of Thursday, May 15, 2025, after receiving calls from concerned citizens.

CCSO Animal Control deputies responded to the 3200 block of Sandhill Road off Bohicket Road in reference to many canines being on the property. Upon arrival, deputies noted there were approximately 15 kennels housing 25 canines of various breeds and sizes. Deputies then contacted the owner of the canines, who fully cooperated throughout the visit. During inspection, all the canines appeared healthy, had clean kennels, and had potable water available. All the canines also appeared to be in good body condition, all falling between 4 and 5 on the Purina Body Condition Scoring System. Furthermore, all the canines displayed behavior consistent with being excited and happy when interacting with the owner.

The kennels the canines were being housed in were deemed not suitable for outdoor use. Through local partnerships and networking, Animal Control deputies were able to assist with placement for several canines. The owner was able to relocate the remaining canines to a home where they will have suitable living conditions. The owner is not facing any charges currently.

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office wants the community to know that we take this situation seriously. Deputies with the CCSO Animal Control Unit work tirelessly to ensure the safety of all living things throughout the county, making sure they are cared for as if they were their own.

Charleston County Sheriff Carl Ritchie is working hand in hand with Charleston County Council, and specifically Councilman Joe Boykin, to review and strengthen the ordinances currently in place as they relate to animal well-being.

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