

### \*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

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FOR RELEASE ON: October 24, 2019

# **ARL Files Charges Against Middleboro Kennel Owner**

Five Felony Counts Included

Today, the Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Law Enforcement Department filed criminal charges at Wareham District Court, stemming from a September 24 operation where ARL, in conjunction with Middleboro Police and Animal Control Departments, seized 24 animals from a commercial kennel facility in the town.

Charges levied against Mr. Michael Perette of Middleboro, MA, include:

Five Felony Charges:

- MGL. Ch. 272/77/B: Animal Cruelty (1 donkey)
- MGL. Ch. 272/77/B: Animal Cruelty (4 birds)
- MGL. Ch. 272/77/B: Animal Cruelty (2 Caucasian Shepherd type dogs)
- MGL. Ch. 272/77/B: Animal Cruelty (2 Dodo Argentino type dogs)
- MGL. Ch. 272/77/B: Animal Cruelty (19 Cane Corso dogs)

Twenty-Three Misdemeanor Charges:

• MGL. Ch. 140/174E: Neglect and Abuse (for each dog within the rear kennel facility)

With charges officially filed, ARL will not be commenting further until judicial proceedings conclude. Any media inquiries can be directed to the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office.

ARL and partnering municipal shelters continue to provide daily care for the 24 animals, primarily Cane Corso dogs, seized from Mr. Perette's property in September. The majority of the animals were traumatized due to their surroundings, and remain under evaluation and are currently NOT available for adoption. ARL hopes to have a status update on the animals soon.

#### **ORIGINAL NEWS RELEASE:**

FOR RELEASE ON: October 4, 2019

## ARL, Middleboro Police Seize Animals at Kennel Facility

Animals found living in inhumane, unsanitary conditions

The Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Law Enforcement Department, in conjunction with Middleboro Police and Animal Control Departments, recently executed a search warrant at a commercial kennel facility to inspect and seize animals from the property.

Most of the 24 animals removed were young adult Cane Corso and Dogo Argentino dogs, however, a peacock, donkey, ducks and a chicken were seized as well.

The animals were found living in poorly ventilated, unsanitary, cruel and dangerous conditions. They have been transported to ARL's Dedham, Boston and Brewster, as well as municipal facilities in Middleboro, Auburn, Mansfield, Norton, and Framingham. The animals are friendly and will undergo ongoing medical care and behavioral evaluations before being made available for adoption.

The entire operation took approximately 12 hours, and ARL would like to thank the Middleboro Police, Animal Control and our partner shelters who assisted in rescuing these animals from their cycle of neglect.

This is an on-going investigation, however, potential charges may be pending at the conclusion of the investigative process.

#### ABOUT THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON:

The Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL) is an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes. Founded in 1899, ARL provides high quality veterinary care, adoption, and rescue services; while also confronting the root causes of animal cruelty and neglect through innovative community programs, police investigations, and public advocacy. In 2018, ARL served 17,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive no government grants or public funding and rely solely on the generosity of individuals to support programs and services that help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at <u>www.arlboston.org</u>; and be sure to follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>.