

**ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON**



**\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE/PHOTOS ATTACHED\*\*\***

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**Week-Old Kitten Abandoned in Dorchester – ARL Law  
Enforcement Investigating Incident**

*Kitten Found with Plastic Bag Around His Head and Neck*

This past weekend, a concerned citizen helped rescue an abandoned kitten who was found in a residential neighborhood in Dorchester. Unfortunately the kitten was unable to survive.

The male kitten, estimated to be just 1-2 weeks old, was found with a plastic bag covering his head and cinched around his neck, and the resident who found him needed a knife to cut the bag in order to free the kitten.

The resident contacted the Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Field Services Department, who immediately responded to the area on Norfolk St. Sadly, just days after being rescued, the kitten developed Fading Kitten Syndrome, and did not survive.

ARL Law Enforcement is investigating the matter as an act of animal cruelty and abandonment, as it's believed the bag was placed over the kitten's head intentionally. This action is also believed to have directly contributed to the animal's decline and untimely death.

Animal cruelty is a felony in Massachusetts, punishable by up to 7 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Anyone with information on this act of animal cruelty is urged to contact ARL Law Enforcement at 617-426-9170, or via email [cruelty@arlboston.org](mailto:cruelty@arlboston.org).

“This is a sad day at ARL, however we remain steadfast and committed to discovering who may have committed this act of cruelty on a defenseless kitten,” said ARL President Dr. Edward Schettino. “If anyone has any information, we plead for you to reach out so we may give this kitten some peace and perhaps save the lives of more vulnerable animals.”

**For photos, click the Dropbox link below:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/0bhxwwq1ewnsxzt/AABGxRaOCP7W81DIZfzVjrea?dl=0>

**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 2019, ARL served more than 20,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. ARL relies on the generosity of individuals to support programs and services that help animals in need.

For more information please visit us online at [www.arlboston.org](http://www.arlboston.org); and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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