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## ARL Law Enforcement, Westport Police Seeking Public's Help in Identifying Abandoned Dog's Owner

Dog discovered in poor condition

The Animal Rescue League of Boston's (ARL) Law Enforcement Department in collaboration with the Westport Police Department, is seeking information regarding a small dog that was recently found abandoned and in poor condition.

The approximately 8-year-old male Yorkshire Terrier named Connor was found along Sodom Road in Westport in late May and displayed gross neglect as he was severely matted and underweight with mild muscle wasting. Additionally, a veterinary exam revealed extensive dental disease and masses on the dog's sternum and abdomen.

There was a microchip implanted, however it was not registered.

Given the animal's condition and abandonment, ARL Law Enforcement and Westport Police have launched an investigation in the matter and asking for the public's help in identifying who may have had the dog previously.

Neglect and abandonment of an animal are felony crimes in Massachusetts, punishable by up to 7 years in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact ARL Law Enforcement at 617-426-9170 x110, or email <u>cruelty@arlboston.org</u>; or contact Westport Animal Control at 774-264-5129.

While timid around new people, Connor's physical condition has improved to the point where he will soon be made available for adoption in the near future.

## **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 2020, ARL served nearly 17,000 animals throughout Massachusetts. ARL is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. The Animal Rescue League of Boston does not receive government grants or public funding (with the exception of limited COVID-19 relief funding) and relies on the generosity of our supporters to help animals in need. For more information please visit us online at arlboston.org; and be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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