



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Numerous Cats Removed From Vienna Home

On May 30, 2008 Animal Control Officer Brian Harrington was contacted by the Humane Society in Front Royal, Virginia. They provided information about a woman that had been bringing a large amount of cats (approximately 70) in to their facility to be spayed or neutered in recent days. They asked ACO Harrington to check on the welfare of the animals at that residence.

ACO Harrington and another Vienna Police Officer observed approximately one dozen cats inside and around the residence in the 400 block of Nelson Drive NE in Vienna. Upon their approach, they observed that the floor was littered with cat excrement and cat litter was strewn about. A deceased cat was then observed on the floor as well. Nobody inside the home was available to permit access to the inside.

As ACO Harrington was preparing to secure a search warrant for the residence, contact was made with the owner of the home. The homeowner, Ms. Anisa Mustafa, 30, of Vienna, opened the home up for the officers. Upon entry in to the home, a strong odor of ammonia was detected. A litter box had been placed in the corner of the living room but was full and had tipped over. Several more full litter boxes were observed throughout the home.

In all, 47 cats, five of which were kittens, were discovered inside the home. Ms. Mustafa was issued a summons for Improper Care of Animals and released conditioned upon her signing the summons. She further agreed to release the majority of the cats to ACO Harrington. As additional transport vans were needed, Fairfax County Animal Control was summoned to assist ACO Harrington in transporting the cats from the home. All the cats were transported to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter on West Ox Road in Fairfax.

**Please contact MPO Bill Murray for further information at
703.255.6396 or wmurray@viennava.gov**