

PRESS RELEASE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OCTOBER 29, 2018

Having reviewed the case of Mr. Jon Schuck, who was arrested on October 2, 2018 for the offense of misdemeanor Cruelty to Animals, the District Attorney's Office has concluded there is insufficient evidence to proceed on either misdemeanor or felony Cruelty to Animals, as newly obtained evidence shows that his dog, Beauty, passed away that day of natural causes related to lymphoma and sepsis, rather than as a result of any neglect or mistreatment.

On October 2, 2018, Mr. Schuck brought Beauty, a dog he had recently adopted, to downtown Newnan for a walk. While at the Court Square, Beauty collapsed, and Mr. Schuck carried Beauty over to Leaf and Bean, where he left Beauty tied outside with a bowl of water and some food. It was approximately 85 degrees Fahrenheit outside, and Beauty was left in the shaded area near Leaf and Beans' entrance. During this time Mr. Schuck also posted a photo on Facebook of Beauty resting on the sidewalk with a bowl of food. (See attached)

Approximately an hour and a half later, when Beauty appeared to have difficulty breathing, concerned citizens notified Mr. Schuck and called police. Beauty died before police arrived, and police arrested Mr. Schuck based on probable cause to believe Beauty had died as a result of heat exhaustion from being left tied outside.

Thereafter, a necropsy was performed on Beauty to determine the cause of death. The examiner concluded, "Both lymphoma and sepsis contributed to death in this dog." In an email to law enforcement, the examiner added, "This dog had cancer and was very sick prior to death. All lymph nodes were involved and in addition [the dog] had an infection in the bloodstream that in itself could cause death without the underlying cancer." The examiner did not report any evidence of malnourishment or heat exhaustion.

Given the initial concern that heat exhaustion led to Beauty's very public death, this case understandably received considerable attention from concerned citizens as well as from our office. However, we have ultimately determined based on the newly discovered evidence that justice is not served by prosecuting Mr. Schuck with any criminal offense, since Beauty's death cannot be attributed to any criminal neglect or mistreatment at the hands of Mr. Schuck.

John Herbert Cranford, Jr.
District Attorney
Coweta Judicial Circuit



Oingo D'Boingo

October 2 at 1:48 PM · 🌐



CAMPIN' OUT AT L&B WITH "BEAUTY"...the nicest Barista's ever takin' care of this dog just adopted to save her life as she has a rare form of cancer which with the Lord's help we will see it through for her...



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