

Office of the Hunterdon County Prosecutor

MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
ACTING PROSECUTOR



FRANK R. CRISOLOGO
ACTING CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

PAUL T. APPROVATO
ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

Justice Center, 2nd Floor
65 Park Avenue
PO Box 756
Flemington, NJ 08822-0756

Telephone 908-788-1129
Fax 908-806-4618

www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/prosecutor.htm

UPDATE

MEDIA RELEASE – JUNE 17, 2019

TWO PEOPLE CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATION

Acting Hunterdon County Prosecutor Michael J. Williams, Chief of Detectives Frank R. Crisologo, and New Jersey State Police Kingwood Station Commander Lt. Sean O'Connor have announced that two individuals have been charged after a joint animal cruelty investigation. Martin Strozeski, age 66, and Marcia Knostr, age 70, both of Stockton, have been charged with one count of 3rd degree Failing to Provide Necessary Care to 22 dogs, thereby resulting in their death; one count of 4th degree Failing to Provide Necessary Care to 188 dogs, resulting in bodily injury; and one count of Failing to Provide Necessary Care to 188 dogs, a disorderly person offense.

ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATION IN HUNTERDON COUNTY LEADS TO THE RECOVERY OF 188 DOGS

Acting Hunterdon County Prosecutor Michael J. Williams, Chief of Detectives Frank R. Crisologo, and New Jersey State Police Kingwood Station Commander Lt. Sean O'Connor announced that an ongoing animal cruelty investigation has led to the seizure of 188 dogs at a residence in Kingwood Township.

Acting Prosecutor Williams stated, "Detectives from the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's Office's Major Crimes Unit and New Jersey State Police Kingwood barracks responded to a residence in Kingwood Township. A search of the home and other buildings located on the property uncovered over 188 dogs believed to be neglected. In addition, another 30 dogs were previously surrendered by the home owners. The dogs were removed from the residence by St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center and the Monmouth County SPCA. The rescue operation took place early morning Tuesday and continued throughout the day. The animal cruelty investigation is ongoing and charges are still pending.

Acting Prosecutor Williams added, "I would like to thank St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center and Monmouth County SPCA for their hard work and assistance in this matter. I would also like to thank the members of the New Jersey State Police, Kingwood Township Rescue Squad, Hunterdon County OEM, Hunterdon County Health Department, and Adult Protective Services for their assistance in the animal rescue."

Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-321-0010, going online at www.CrimeStoppersHunterdon.com, or through the free "P3 Tips" smartphone app. All tips are anonymous and kept confidential

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