



Leon County Sheriff's Office
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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 2/6/2007

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Sheriff

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Animal Abuse Arrest

Leon County Sheriff's Deputies arrest a Tallahassee man charging him with Felony Animal Cruelty.

On January 19, 2007, deputies were called to the Cascade Village Mobile Home Park reference the animal cruelty. Witnesses told deputies they saw a dog chase a cat up a tree and then watched the dog's owner knock the cat down and beat it with a stick. The dog reportedly then chased the cat until he caught it by the neck. The cat escaped but died from the injuries. Witnesses told deputies the dog's owner then threw the cat into a pond.

Detective Joel Weaver, working in conjunction with Leon County Animal Control, compiled witness statements and evidence from the initial report then obtained arrest warrants for the dog's owner, Bryan Panasek, 12/2/76. When confronted by Weaver, Panasek admitted to the incident. He was arrested on February 4, 2007 and booked into the Leon County Jail. Leon County Animal Control issued Panasek several citations. He has since been released on a \$2500 bond.



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