



# PRESS RELEASE

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## MUSCATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 17, 2022

## ANONYMOUS TIP LEADS TO RESCUE OF 42 DOGS

*Search of Fruitland trailer finds dogs living in unsafe conditions*

**MUSCATINE, Iowa** - The Muscatine Police Department received an anonymous tip on February 10, 2022, regarding allegations of animal neglect occurring at 150 Main Street, Fruitland, Iowa. The tip alleged that a couple were living in a mobile home with an excessive number of dogs. The overcrowded conditions in the mobile home were suspected of causing severe health issues for the dogs.

Muscatine Animal Control Officer Courtney Patel investigated the anonymous tip, and discovered that an excessive number of dogs were housed in the mobile home, and concerns of overcrowding and unsanitary conditions were identified.

In conjunction with the Muscatine Police Department, a search warrant was obtained for removal of the animals.



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The Muscatine Police Department, with assistance from Muscatine Animal Control and the Muscatine Humane Society, accessed the residence and were able to rescue the animals. A total of 42 dogs were rescued from inside the mobile home. The conditions of the mobile home were considered unsafe for the animals due to the excessive amount of animal waste present, as well as a lack of access to adequate food and medical care.

In accordance with Iowa Code 717B.5, which outlines the rescue of threatened animals, the Muscatine Police Department worked with the Muscatine Humane Society to take over possession, care, and maintenance of the animals while the investigation continues. The animals will remain with the Muscatine Humane Society until dispositional proceedings can be held.

The investigation remains ongoing and any criminal charges are pending.

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