



Polk County Jail
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Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 5, 2019

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Animal Neglect

On May 28, 2019 Polk County Deputies went to 12797 NW 158th Ave. for a civil matter. While at the property, a deputy observed an overwhelming number of cats in and out of the house. The deputy also observed the front door to the house open and could smell a strong odor of cat feces and urine. The deputy contacted an animal control officer to the address.

Animal Control officers, along with the Animal Rescue League – Iowa (ARL) personnel, arrived at the address. After an evaluation by the ARL vet it was determined that the cats were living in horrendous conditions.

On June 4, 2019 at 9:00 am the Polk County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at 12797 NW 158th Ave for an investigation into animal neglect. The ARL, Polk County Emergency Management, Des Moines Fire Department, Mobile Crisis, and Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) assisted in this incident.

At 4:05 pm, 65-year-old Dennis Carlson was arrested and charged with 5 counts of animal neglect and 3 counts of failure to dispose of a dead animal. The case number for this incident is 19-3828. This incident remains under investigation. No further information will be released at this time.

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