



ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

444 SW 4TH STREET, ONTARIO, OR 97914

OFFICE: (541) 881-3225 DISPATCH: (541) 473-5125 FAX: (541) 889-3026

Steven Romero
Chief of Police

Jason Cooper
Lieutenant

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Animal Abandonment

Ontario, Oregon: On April 10th, 2020 at about 1552 hours, Ontario Police Department received information of a dog that was dropped off and abandoned at the Ani-Care Animal Shelter. Video footage was obtained from the business to locate and identify the male suspect in a red truck with Idaho license plates. A still image from the video was posted on the OPD Facebook page, resulting in an anonymous tip which led to identification of the suspect.

The investigation was led by Code Enforcement Officers' Reyna and Brockett, who located the suspect and determined he is a Weiser, Idaho resident.

On April 17th, 2020, the male suspect was cited for Animal Abandonment, a B Misdemeanor in the State of Oregon. The suspect has a mandatory court date set for the Malheur County Circuit Court in Vale, Oregon. If convicted, the suspect could face up to 6 months in jail and a \$2,500 fine.

ORS 167.340 Animal Abandonment is defined as "a person commits the crime of animal abandonment if the person intentionally, knowingly, recklessly, or with criminal negligence leaves a domestic animal without providing minimum care", Subsection 2 of that ORS states that "it is no defense that the defendant abandoned the animal at an animal shelter, veterinary clinic, or other place of shelter, without making reasonable arrangements."

OPD would like to remind everyone that dogs and other animals should have proper care which includes food, water, and shelter. These types of incidents have become a chronic issue within the City of Ontario. Thanks to an anonymous tip from a concerned citizen, OPD was able to identify and locate the suspect.

OPD appreciates the community-police working partnership.

CONTACT: OPD Code Enforcement Officer R. Reyna or D. Brockett (541)889-7684.
Rick.reyna@ontariooregon.org or dallas.brockett@ontariooregon.org