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Press Release

Indictments in Animal Cruelty Case

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A Canton pair, who initially claimed to have found the emaciated pit bull type dog that they brought to the Angell Animal Medical Center of the MSPCA in Jamaica Plain, was indicted by a Norfolk County Grand Jury today (October 31, 2019) – now accused of being the people who abused the dog, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

Michael Coke, age 24, and Tatyana Denis, age 22, of Canton, were each indicted on a charge of animal cruelty. Ms. Denis was additionally indicted for misleading police. The pair brought the dog to the MSPCA's Angell Animal Medical Center in Jamaica Plain on July 28.

The MSPCA publicized the case in order to gain information in August.

"The MSPCA law enforcement division and the veterinarians at Angell have been excellent partners in this investigation," District Attorney Morrissey said. "We are thankful to them, and to the Canton Police Department, for the work and investigation that led to today's indictments."

The dog, whom the staff at Angell named Glitch, survived and has been adopted.

The matter will be prosecuted in Norfolk Superior Court by Assistant District Attorney Tracey Cusick.

Anyone with additional information about this incident is encouraged to call the MSPCA's lead investigator on the matter, Officer Nadya Moreno, at 617-522-6008.

Pending charges represent accusations; all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt under the United States Constitution.