



## PAULDING COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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**To: Metro Atlanta Media**

### **For Immediate Release**

#### **Paulding County Animal Cruelty Case**

(Paulding County, GA) On Sunday May 17, 2015 Paulding County Animal Control Officers responded to 180 Ashwood Drive Dallas, GA 30157 in reference to a cruelty to animals case. When they arrived they discovered that nine Great Pyrenees dogs had been locked in a 6 x 10 enclosed trailer for a significant amount of time.

According to Animal Control, there were five adult Great Pyrenees and four three month old Great Pyrenees puppies. Once Animal Control saw that three of the dogs had perished and several were critical, they requested Deputies respond to the scene to begin a criminal investigation. When Deputies arrived on scene they assessed the situation and called for a Detective with the Criminal Investigations Division.

Once the Detective arrived on scene it was learned that one of the dogs that was in critical condition had died at the veterinarian's office. According to Animal Control, five of the nine dogs survived the incident and are doing okay. Jeffery Douglas Bowers (W/M, 45 YOA), who is the owner of the dogs, put them there because of a complaint he had received from other property where the dogs had previously been located. According to witnesses, the dogs were initially locked in the trailer in the evening hours just before dark on Saturday (05/16/15). When Bowers came back to 180 Ashwood Drive (which is a rental property for Bowers) on Sunday (05/17/15) after 1:00 pm, he discovered that several dogs had died. It was then, that a neighbor called 911 stating that someone was dragging dead dogs out of the trailer and had Animal Control and Deputies respond to the scene.

Bowers turned himself into the Paulding County Jail at approximately 8:00 am on Thursday 05/21/15 and bonded out a short time later. Bowers was charged with one count of Cruelty to Animals (M).