



Auburn Police Department

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UNLICENSED PET STORE LINKED TO PARVO VIRUS UNDER INVESTIGATION

AUBURN, ME – Auburn Police are investigating an unlicensed pet store that sold puppies that were later diagnosed with the Canine Parvovirus Infection (CPV).

On 12/19/16, Auburn Police executed a search warrant at the residence of Steven and Leala Evans, 129 Lake St after receiving a complaint that a puppy purchased from the couple was diagnosed with CPV. Investigators found fifteen dogs in the residence, seven of which are puppies. Three of the puppies exhibited symptoms of CPV. All fifteen dogs have been placed in an in-house quarantine with the requirement that the three puppies be examined by a veterinarian within 24 hours.

Investigators are still working to determine the number of dogs that were sold or given away by the Evans's. Investigators have identified four customers who purchased dogs now diagnosed with CPV from Steven and Leala Evans. The Evans's purportedly sold the animals online via Craigslist, Uncle Henry's and Facebook. Anyone with information regarding this case should contact Special Enforcement Officer Michael Chaine at 207-333-6650 ext 2058 or mchaine@auburnmaine.gov

The canine parvovirus (CPV) infection is a highly contagious viral illness that affects dogs, which is characterized by vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, and lack of appetite, usually affecting puppies between six weeks and six months old.

This remains an active criminal investigation and we will send out updates when we have them. Auburn Police is being assisted by State of Maine Animal Welfare personnel.