



BRADLEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

BRADLEY COUNTY JUSTICE COMPLEX

2290 Blythe Avenue SE
Cleveland, TN 37311
www.BradleySheriff.com



Public Information Officer
Telephone # (423) 380-9040

Fax # (423) 473-1505

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWO JUVENILES CHARGED WITH AGGRAVATED ANIMAL ABUSE AND KILLING OF AN ANIMAL

CLEVELAND, TN. (May 11, 2022) — On May 10, 2022 the Bradley County Sheriff's Office and the Cleveland Police Department received numerous complaints related to a graphic video being shared throughout social media. In the video, a juvenile can be seen fatally wounding a dog with a large stick. The incident occurred in southern Bradley County on Carter Road.

Investigators from the Bradley County Sheriff's Office and the Cleveland Police worked quickly and cooperatively throughout this investigation to gather pertinent information in determining the suspects involved. The person who can be seen in the video striking the dog was identified as well as the person recording the incident. Both juveniles were acting together and are 16 years of age. Investigators from the Sheriff's Office and the Police Department located the juveniles and interviewed them at the Judicial Complex.

The juvenile seen committing the fatal assault as well as the person recording the assault were charged with Aggravated Animal Cruelty and Intentional Killing of an Animal. Both juveniles were transported to the Bradley County Juvenile Detention Center.

Sheriff Steve Lawson added, "as the initial reports came in, my office and Cleveland Police Department Chief Mark Gibson were willing to work together alongside District Attorney Steve Crump to achieve a resolution, especially in a matter effecting the public to this degree".

The Bradley County Sheriff's Office worked through SPCA of Bradley County to set up cremation services for the deceased dog.

The arraignment for both juveniles is set for May 12, 2022 in Bradley County Juvenile Court.

About BCSO

The Bradley County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) is a law enforcement agency serving all residents of Bradley County, Tennessee. The elected sheriff is Steve Lawson, who has held the post since September 2018. BCSO is located at 2290 Blythe Avenue SE, Cleveland, TN 37311 and can be reached at 423-728-7300 for non-emergency calls.
