



COUNTY OF FRESNO

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District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 4, 2022

District Attorney Charges Aaron Cumpton with Animal Cruelty in Killing of Fresno Family's Pet

Following a law enforcement investigation, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office has filed one felony charge against Aaron Cumpton (23, of Fresno) related to the death of a Fresno family's dog.

It is alleged that on October 26, 2021, Cumpton was at the pet owner's residence to service their pool when he was captured by surveillance cameras holding the family's 16-year-old Yorkie. According to investigators, Cumpton then disappears from the camera's view, only to reappear holding the dog's lifeless body. The surveillance video then shows Cumpton placing the dog in a garbage can and then covering the dog with trash. Because of the delay in the discovery of the dog's death, the pet's body was not able to be recovered.

Cumpton was arrested following the investigation and has now been formally charged. The felony complaint filed on January 3, 2022 alleges that Cumpton committed the following offense:

1. Penal Code section 597(a)-CRUELTY TO AN ANIMAL

If convicted, Cumpton faces a possible sentence of up to 3 years in local prison.

Cumpton is scheduled to be arraigned in the Fresno County Superior Court on January 20, 2022.

Media may email FCDAMedia@fresnocountyca.gov with any questions.

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