



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Media Release

From: Sergeant Donna Black
Public Information Officer, 352-754-6830

Re: Sick & Malnourished Dogs Dumped During the Night
UPDATE--

Date: November 18, 2010

Case#: 2010-43965

UPDATE+++++++

As the dogs are being groomed and evaluated it has been determined that the dogs are actually the **Shih Tzu breed** and not Lhasa Apso. The dogs were so filthy and matted that it was hard to tell the breed until some were shaved so a better determination could be made.

Hernando County Sheriff's Office is still asking for the public's help in determining where these dogs came from. Please call the Hernando County Sheriff's Office 352-754-6830 or Crime Stoppers at 1-866-990-TIPS.

RELEASED EARLIER

On November 18, 2010 at 2:53 am, Hernando County Deputies responded to Holden Dr & Hilton Rd, Brooksville, after neighbors woke up to dogs barking and looked outside to see multiple small dogs abandoned in the roadway.

When deputies arrived they saw approximately 50 small dogs believed to be Shih Tzu breed in the middle of the road and in yards. The dogs varied in ages from mature dogs to mother dogs with puppies. It is obvious that all the dogs were dumped on this dead end road intentionally abandoned during the night.

Animal Control Officers responded to the scene and began gathering the dogs. The dogs appeared to be malnourished with numerous types of skin lesions, matted fur, and covered with fleas, urine and feces.

Currently, Animal Control has recovered 62 dogs which have been taken to their facility for evaluation and treatment. It is unknown if all the dogs have been found.

It is possible these dogs were part of a puppy mill or back yard breeder. This case is being investigated by the Hernando County Sheriff's Office in conjunction with Hernando County Animal Control. Anyone with information about these dogs is asked to call the Hernando County Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830. Or if you wish to remain anonymous and be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.00 call the Hernando Crime Stoppers toll free 1-866-990-TIPS or email a tip by clicking on www.hernadosheriff.org Crime Stopper link.

If you have information regarding this crime, please contact the Hernando County Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the Hernando County Crime Stoppers toll free at 1-866-990-8477(TIPS) or you may email your tip by clicking below.

<http://www.hernadosheriff.org/Tips/>

You may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.

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