



Apache County Sheriff's Office Joseph Dedman Jr., Sheriff

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Shane Bevington, Commander

Concho Woman Arrested for 10 Counts of Animal Cruelty

(Concho, AZ) On October 21, 2019, Apache County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to Lot #5 Apache County Road 5494, Concho, Arizona, reference a report of animal cruelty.

Upon their arrival, the next door neighbor and reporting party advised the Deputies that she was contacted by the property owner, who asked her to check on the property, as the previous tenant, Denise Blackwood, 45, of Concho, had not paid rent in several months and was assumed to have vacated the property.

The reporting party stated while she was checking the property, she noticed the smell of decomposition emanating from within two sheds and two large metal shipping containers on the property. The reporting party stated upon opening the doors to the sheds and shipping containers, she discovered numerous dead animals within in various stages of decomposition. The reporting party stated none of the doors were locked on the sheds or shipping containers, but stated that all of the doors were secured from the outside via wooden boards.

Deputies were able to identify the remains several dogs, several rabbits, and one dead goat within the two sheds and shipping containers. The Deputies also located one goat that was still alive, as it appeared to have been feeding off of animal carcasses. That goat was turned over to the Arizona Department of Agriculture Livestock Inspector.

Afterwards, the Deputies located Blackwood at another Concho residence and placed her under arrest for ten counts of felony animal cruelty. Blackwood was booked into the Apache County Jail, Saint Johns, Arizona.



####