



GREY2K USA

Via Facsimile and First Class Mail - 850-638-6039

November 2, 2010

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Ms. Erin Oliver
Assistant State Attorney
P.O. Box 590
Chipley, FL 32428

Dear Ms. Oliver,

This is a request to pursue the strongest penalties available under Fla. Stat. § 828.12 against greyhound trainer, Ronald John "Ronnie" Williams. The state anti-cruelty statute states in relevant part that a person "who intentionally commits an act to any animal which results in the cruel death, or excessive or repeated infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering, or causes the same to be done, is guilty of a felony of the third degree" which is punishable by up to 5 years in jail and a fine of \$5,000 per act.

Mr. Williams has thus far been charged with thirty-seven counts of felony animal cruelty for allegedly starving nearly forty greyhounds, causing thirty-three to die, at Ebro Greyhound Park. We understand that additional dead greyhounds have now been found at his home. These acts cry out for severe punishment by your office.

The story of Florida greyhound racing is one woven with the suffering of greyhounds, and as long as dog racing continues in the state, these gentle friends will suffer and die while racing. The inherent cruelty of this activity is not something your office can address, but atrocious occurrences like this demand your attention.

Certainly, this weekend's arrest of Mr. Williams reinforces the urgency of more thorough and comprehensive regulation by the state Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering. Problems need to be identified long before dogs are found dying and dead, or in distress, at any state-monitored facilities. I hope you will join with me in urging the agency's greater attention to the protection of greyhounds, and I again urge you to seek the highest possible penalties against Mr. Williams.

Respectfully,

Christine A. Dorchak, Esq.

PROTECTING GREYHOUNDS NATIONWIDE

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