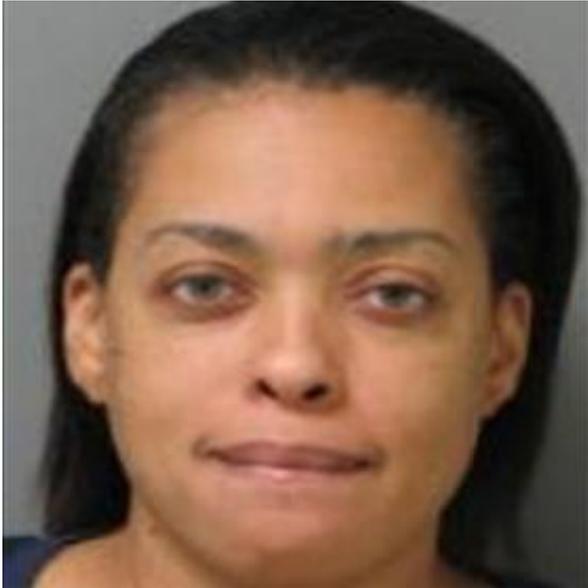


Arrested Memphis Animal Shelter Worker Faces New Problems



Demetria Hogan

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MEMPHIS, TN - Demetria Hogan, the Memphis animal control officer arrested on two counts of animal cruelty charges, is now under investigation for the death of a dog.

Hogan was arrested on cruelty charges relating to a missing dog case on July 13, 2011. Shortly after being released from jail, a second investigation started for an incident that happened the day before.

On Tuesday, July 12th, Hogan responded to a call about an injured animal on Hillshire. Sources tell abc24.com while she was on the call, a coworker tipped Hogan off that police were at the shelter waiting to arrest her.

Instead of returning immediately to the shelter with the injured dog, as department policy mandates, Hogan stayed in the field for more than two hours. She returned only after police left, and by then, the injured dog in the back of her truck was dead.

"We are investigating that right now," says shelter operations manager, Chelton Beamon. "I can't release anything, but we are working with police on that."

Hogan was charged with animal cruelty for an incident in June. Hogan picked up two dogs in Cordova, Kapone and Jersey, after they got out of their backyard. Hogan says she took both dogs to the shelter, but according to police records, video surveillance shows Kapone, an 11-year-old pit bull, never made it there.

abc24.com caught up with Memphis Mayor A C Wharton for his comments on the latest scandal at the troubled shelter, and the weeks it's taken for the Kapone investigation to unfold.

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"When you are on the public payroll," Mayor Wharton says, "it is magnified. We don't want to do anything to prejudice the case because we are serious about it."

Hogan is now suspended with pay. She makes her first court appearance Thursday, July 14, 2011.