



St. Clair County Animal Control

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FROM: St. Clair County Animal Control

DATE: February 26, 2025 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Director Melissa Miller 810-984-3155 or animalcontrol@stclaircounty.org

67 Rescued Farm Animals Available For Placement

China Township, St. Clair County–

On February 25, 2025 Kevin Tuttle, 59, of China Township pled guilty to misdemeanor cruelty to 3-6 animals and terminated his rights to all animals in the care of St. Clair County Animal Control.

Tuttle was charged for inadequate care of goats, sheep, mini-pigs and chickens without access to food, water, shelter and sanitary conditions that were seized by Animal Control between January 22nd and February 14th, 2025.

"The animals seized during this case were emaciated and weak," stated Director Melissa Miller. "The goats had difficulty standing, the mini pigs have signs of frostbite all over their bodies, and the wool on the sheep was so overgrown and matted that the vet required shearing, despite being out of season to do so."

"Two of the animals had to be sent to MSU in critical condition, one of which had to be humanely euthanized." Miller went on to say. "There is no excuse for farm animals to be in the condition where they are unsaleable due to lack of muscle mass or for fiber to damage the skin."

Animal Control is looking for families that are interested in fostering or permanent placement with enclosed or heated barns. "These animals have been through so much and had injuries requiring vaccination, so we are looking for them to find placement where they will be friends, not food," said Miller. "Species experience is a must as they have a long way to go before they recover fully." Biosecurity testing results will be available for all goats and sheep by February 28th, although many have already tested negative for communicable herd disease.

Tuttle's sentencing will be held at a date that is yet to be determined.

St. Clair County Animal Control asks anyone wishing for more information regarding placement to email animalcontrol@stclaircounty.org