



Bedford County Sheriff's Office

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Michael J. Brown
Sheriff

Committed to Excellence

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NC Man Arrested On Dog Fighting Charges

Bedford, VA – Sheriff Mike Brown has announced that after an extensive, two month, interstate undercover investigation, a North Carolina man has been arrested on animal fighting charges.

On Saturday, September 19, 2009, members of the Bedford County Animal Control and Field Deputies, assisted by the Humane Society of the United States, seized five Pit-bull dogs, in cages, from the Best Western Motel, in Bedford, VA.

Investigations show that these dogs were transported to Virginia for the purpose of engaging in dog fighting in Central VA and West Virginia.

Taken under arrest is twenty-five year old William Travis Williams of Marshal, NC. Williams was placed under arrest after receiving \$6,500 for transporting and selling the five Pit-Bull dogs to undercover agents disguised as “dog fight” coordinators from central VA.

Williams was arrested under a new Felony law that makes it illegal for anyone to transport, own, train or sell animals into the state of Virginia for purposes of engaging in an exhibition of fighting with another animal. If convicted, Williams could face 1 to 5 years in prison and up to \$250,000 fine.

This investigation is on going with more arrests anticipated.

The seized animals are currently being held at the Bedford County Animal Shelter.

Anyone with knowledge or suspects that someone is involved in animal fighting is urged to contact their local police agency and local Humane Society.



Travis Williams



Rowdy



Mercedes

Thanks to Sheriff Brown's efforts against dog fighting in the area and commitment of his Deputies to put a halt to this cruelty, Rowdy (a two time champion) and his girlfriend Mercedes will no longer be subjected to the violent and horrendous world of dog fighting.

#End#

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