



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# MEDIA STATEMENT

## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Law Enforcement *Off The Pavement*



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## Steadfast Wildlife Rescue Rehab Investigation Complete

**SOCIAL CIRCLE** - This week, Georgia DNR Law Enforcement game wardens completed an investigation of the Steadfast Wildlife Rescue Rehab Inc., after multiple captive wildlife and domestic animals at the facility were found dead in late January.

On January 26<sup>th</sup>, DNR LE investigators responded to the facility in Tifton, GA after they were notified of the deceased animals. After collecting evidence from the scene, necropsies were performed on the animals, and the facility operator, Jessica Pisciotta was interviewed.

The investigation determined that all of the captive wildlife and domestic animals were killed after domestic dogs gained access to their enclosures.

Based on the findings of the investigation, Pisciotta was charged with one misdemeanor count of Violation of Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit, citing failure to provide secure facilities and enclosures necessary to protect both the wildlife and the public, as required under Georgia law **O.C.G.A. 27-1-3**.

The DNR Law Enforcement Division will continue to monitor Ms. Pisciotta's rehabilitation operations in the coming months to ensure compliance with all state wildlife regulations.

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*The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division is committed to conserving our natural resources and protecting the people we serve through fair and vigorous law enforcement, quality education, and community involvement.*

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