

# What To Do If You Have Been Accused of Animal Cruelty

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According to an article in WPTV News, another animal cruelty case has hit the front page. A neglected and abused bullmastiff mix was rescued last week in deplorable condition. Although his past had been bleak, he may have a promising future ahead of him with the help from donations and animal lovers everywhere.

The bullmastiff mix, Colin, was rescued with a skin condition and puncture marks all over his body. It is believed he may have been used as a bait dog in a fighting ring – a common illegal practice in south Florida.

He is undergoing medical care at Paws-2-Help and will be transferred to Big Dog Ranch Rescue in about two weeks to continue about six months of additional treatment and therapy before being available for adoption from a loving forever home.

## Florida Animal Cruelty Laws

Florida has strong laws to protect against animal cruelty. Animal cruelty laws can vary anywhere from civil infractions to a felonies. Maximum jail time for animal cruelty in Florida is 5 years and fines can amount to \$10,000 – this is not including court fees and cost of time.

It is important to pay attention to animal cruelty laws because even if you feel as if you are not violating any laws, you could be. Having too many animals or not providing adequate care can result in a violation of the law. Take care of your animals.

## Animal Cruelty Defense

If you have ever been accused of [neglect or cruelty towards an animal in Palm Beach County](#) you need to consult an experienced criminal defense lawyer immediately. A lawyer that has experience with animal cruelty cases can explain what the laws are in regards to your charges and can also give you a clear picture on what might happen.

Criminal defense in animal cruelty cases involves a thorough investigation and expert testimony from veterinarians and other animal owners as to what the community standard is for taking care of animals. A

knowledgeable [criminal defense lawyer](#) can use basic defense strategies to help clients avoid charges and fines associated with their crime.

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