



South Carolina Law Enforcement Division

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SLED CHARGES 21 PEOPLE FROM MULTIPLE COUNTIES IN LARGEST DOGFIGHTING OPERATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORY

On Saturday and Sunday, agents with the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) partnered with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, as well as animal welfare organizations to shut down several dogfighting operations, arrest those involved, and rescue 305 dogs.

More information is detailed in warrants that can be accessed by clicking this link:
[\[Click here to download\]](#)

“SLED continues to see the devastating impact of dogfighting across South Carolina. Animal fighting is both inhumane and illegal. Law enforcement often finds that guns, illicit drugs, human trafficking, and child abuse are involved with instances of animal abuse,” said SLED Chief Mark Keel, “This operation was only a success because multiple agencies made up of dedicated professionals worked tirelessly for justice.”

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Marshals Service, the U.S. Department of Justice, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources; law enforcement partners in York County, Lee County, Richland County, Union County, Sumter County, Clarendon County and Orangeburg County; SLED’s SWAT team, Aviation Unit, Crime Scene Unit, Narcotics Unit, Regional Agents, and a newly created Animal Fighting Enforcement Agent all worked together to dismantle these dogfighting operations.

The 18 subjects arrested Saturday night were booked at the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. Two subjects arrested by SLED on Sunday were booked at the Orangeburg County Detention Center. One subject arrested by SLED on Sunday was booked at the Lee County Detention Center.

The investigation is active and ongoing.

If you suspect dog fighting in your community, please call 800-424-9121.

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