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Press Release

Animal abuse indictments in so-called "Puppy Doe" case

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A Norfolk County Grand Jury today (Nov. 21, 2013) handed down 12 indictments for animal abuse and one indictment for misleading police in the ongoing investigation of Radoslaw Czerkawski, 32, formerly of Quincy.

"Today's indictments move the existing case from the Quincy District Court to the Norfolk Superior Court," Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey said. In Massachusetts, criminal complaints adjudicated in a District Court can carry a maximum sentence to 2 ½ years in a county House of Correction. "Only a justice of the Superior Court can order longer terms to be served in a State Prison," he said.

Morrissey said that Czerkawski's arraignment on these indictments in Norfolk Superior Court has not yet been scheduled, but that he expects it to be set before Dec. 20, when the defendant would otherwise be returning to the Quincy District Court. "At the time of the Superior Court arraignment, the District Court case will be withdrawn as superseded."

Czerkawski pled not guilty to multiple counts of animal cruelty and one count of misleading police investigators at his October 29, 2013 arraignment in the Quincy District Court after being returned to Massachusetts from Connecticut. Judge Mark S. Coven at that time ordered him held on \$500,000 cash bail after hearing a bail argument relative to his means and risk of flight from the jurisdiction.

The Norfolk District Attorney's Office is not releasing or confirming details of any additional investigation into Mr. Czerkawski's activities in Norfolk County at this time.

Indictments represent allegations. This and all defendants enjoy the Constitutional presumption of innocence unless and until they are proven guilty.