



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 17-1686A, **Version:** 1

Subject:

Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Marcus Adams; Pinellas County Animal Services Case No. C04527750 - animal abuse matter.

Recommended Action:

Authority for the County Attorney to initiate litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Marcus Adams; Pinellas County Animal Services Case No. C04527750.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Summary:

On September 14, 2017, Officer Taylor Walton of Pinellas County Animal Services (PCAS) responded to the home of Marcus James, located at 843 41st Street S., Saint Petersburg, after an anonymous complaint was submitted to PCAS regarding two deceased dogs at the residence. Officer Walton observed "Girl," a female white and tan pit bull-terrier mix dog tethered to an above-ground pool with no shelter or water. The dog was panting heavily, in direct sunlight, and had abrasions on its neck due to a chain being used as a tether and collar. The dog appeared to be extremely thin. The property itself had a strong odor of decay and liquefied remains of a puppy were observed in a crate with only skull and vertebrae remaining.

"Girl" was seized in the presence of the St. Pete Police Department. Upon examination by a veterinarian, the dog was determined to be in an emaciated state, had abnormal findings of dirt and debris in its ears, abrasions all over its body, and extensive scarring in the ventral cervical region.

In accordance with Section 828.073, Florida Statutes, Pinellas County has filed an action to take custody of the dog in Marcus Adams' possession and enjoin him from owning same, or in the alternative, other relief the Court deems appropriate.

Background Information:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jewel White, County Attorney
Ashley N. Donnell, Assistant County Attorney

Partners:

N/A

Attachments:

N/A