

FILED

01-29-2019

Waupaca County Courts

Terrie J. Tews

2019CF000037

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT WAUPACA COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiff,

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

vs.

CASE TYPE: CF

JEFFREY L. BUTTLES

N7058 HWY. 22/110

MANAWA, WI 54949

DOB: 04/20/1959

SEX/RACE: M/U

EYE COLOR:

HAIR COLOR:

HEIGHT: ;

WEIGHT: ;

DOB: 04/20/1959

DA CASE #:

2019WP000100

AGENCY CASE #:

W19-00776

DA/ADA ASSIGNED:
VERONICA ISHERWOOD

Defendant.

JUDGE ASSIGNED:

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, states that:

Count 1: MISTREATMENT OF ANIMALS

The above-named defendant on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, in the Town of Little Wolf, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, did intentionally treat an animal, Great Dane Gypsy , in a cruel manner, resulting in the animal's death, contrary to sec. 951.02, 939.50(3)(i) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class I Felony, the defendant may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than three (3) years and six (6) months, or both.

Count 2: OBSTRUCTING AN OFFICER

The above-named defendant on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, in the Town of Little Wolf, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, did knowingly obstruct an officer, while such officer was doing an act in an official capacity and with lawful authority, investigating a missing domestic animal., contrary to sec. 946.41(1), 939.51(3)(a) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class A Misdemeanor, the defendant may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than nine (9) months, or both.

PROBABLE CAUSE:

Your complainant is an officer with the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office. Your complainant makes this complaint upon information and belief and upon reports and records of that department. Your complainant has relied upon these records in the past and has found them to be truthful and reliable.

Deputy Wiskirchen of the Waupaca County Sheriff's Department reports as follows:

On 01/16/2019, at approximately 3:43 p.m., I was dispatched to N7058 Hwy 22/110 Town of Little Wolf, Waupaca County, Wisconsin, in reference to an animal problem. JRB had called the Sheriff's Office reporting the animal problem, advising he was behind his neighbor's house

which would be the address of N7058 5TH 22/110, Town of Little Wolf, Waupaca County, and he had found a blood trail and believed the neighbor had shot his dog. I was advised on 01/13/19, RJB called the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office advising their dog had run away from their home in Manawa and it went missing around 12:29 p.m.. The dog can be described as a female Great Dane, white with black spots, that was wearing a pink collar with no tags.

Upon arrival, I saw two females in the garage at N7058 Hwy 22/110 and briefly made contact with a RJB and the resident Patti L. Buttles. They were standing in the garage with two juvenile children. As I approached, RJB identified herself as the mother to the missing dog and Patti advising she resided in the residence.

Patti advised she was aware of the missing dog and she had given permission to the parties on an earlier day, to look for the dog on their property. Patti did indicate she no longer wanted these people on her property and also described an ongoing incident with some possible trespassing issues around deer season. I questioned Patti if she would give me permission to go down and view the blood trail which she advised was fine. She also then requested to have the other parties leave her land as they no longer had permission to be on the property. While speaking with Patti, she did indicate her husband informed her he had shot a coyote, she believed on Sunday, but was unsure on what had happened with the coyote.

I then approached JRB who was still standing out in the field approximately 100 yards to the east of the residence. As I approached JRB, he was obviously upset, in which I advised him to show me the blood trail. While speaking with Justin, we walked the direction of the blood trail in a southeasterly direction towards the woods' edge.

While following the blood trail, I did notice there were what appeared to be K-9 tracks that appeared to be approximately four inches in size across the track. It should be noted there were a fair amount of tracks along this blood trail matching that four inch size frame.

JRB, Deputy Mike Richter and I then followed that blood trail toward the wood edge, continuing in a southeasterly direction and a short while into the woods ending near an elevated constructed deer platform stand, there were what appeared to be ATV tracks that also followed that blood trail to the point that the blood trail ended near the deer stand.

While walking back to the residence, it should be noted I did notice numerous K9 tracks throughout the field, some which appeared to be rather fresh and some which appeared to be rather old as they are frozen partially into snow and water that was standing on top of the field surface.

Upon arrival back at the residence, we briefly made contact with Patti again who advised her husband Jeffrey, later identified as Jeffrey L. Buttles, DOB: 04/20/59. Patti advised Jeff had been on the phone and requested I contact him at my earliest convenience. I briefly spoke with Patti in reference to her husband shooting a coyote. Patti advised she had no idea what had actually occurred and I needed to speak with Jeffrey.

After clearing from the residence, I did call Jeffrey via phone and made contact with him. Jeffrey advised on Sunday morning around 6:45 a.m., he had shot a coyote from his residence and he had disposed of the coyote in a river as he was afraid to get in trouble as he did not have a small game license.

A short while later, Sgt. Scott Lewis and I did meet with Jeffrey at Lindsay Park. While speaking with Jeffrey, he indicated he shot the Great Dane dog. Jeffrey indicated he had been at his residence completing work around his residence. While plugging in a tractor, Jeffrey said he saw there was a black dog over by his burn barrel which would be just to the south of the residence. He advised he began yelling at the black dog to get it off of his property and as he

approached his service door to his garage, he noticed the Great Dane was in his garage. He advised he began yelling at the Great Dane also which started barking and growling at him in which he closed the service door locking the Great Dane into the garage. Jeffrey advised he retrieved a .22 pistol from a detached garage near the residence, went to his vehicle and opened up the overhead garage door on the attached garage to the residence. Jeffrey advised the dog ran out of the garage a short distance and stopped near the service door and again began barking and growling at him. He advised he then shot one shot at the Great Dane as it was standing in front of his residence a short distance away from the service door. Jeffrey believed he missed that shot, but then the dog took off running around the house. Jeffrey then advised he went into the residence and noticed the white dog, also a Great Dane, was now out in his field behind his residence. Jeffrey advised he grabbed a .17 HMR rifle, stepped out onto his porch and shot at the white dog, striking it. Jeffrey advised he went and obtained his ATV and went down into the field into the woods and then picked up the dead dog. Jeffrey advised he placed the dog into this truck and disposed of the dog in the south branch of the Little Wolf River near the intersection of Waupaca Road and Granite Quarry Road.

Jeffrey also advised the dogs were constantly on his property and he had attempted to speak with the dog owner, but was never able to make contact with the dog owner. While speaking with Jeffrey, he indicated he was getting sick of having the dogs on his property and they were a general nuisance. Jeffrey advised this has been going on for approximately 8 months.

I left the residence and responded to the area Jeffrey described as disposing of the dead dog in the area of Waupaca Road and Granite Quarry Road. At the bridge over the south branch of the Little Wolf River, we were unable to locate the dog or any signs of the dog had been disposed of in the river.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 01/29/19

Electronically Signed By:

Nicholas W. Bolz

Assistant District Attorney

State Bar #: 1052394

Electronically Signed By:

Det Sgt Cameron Durrant

Complainant