



HENRICO POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

Eric D. English, Chief of Police



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Henrico Police Make Arrest in Animal Cruelty and Fraud Scam

(Henrico County, Va.) – Henrico Police has made an arrest in an animal cruelty case involving fraud.

On the evening of Thursday, Feb. 12, 2026, Henrico Police was notified by the Attorney General's Office and Chesterfield County Animal Control Officers of a potential scammer posting cats in distress and attempting to solicit money from the public online.

Henrico Detectives immediately began investigating and through community assistance and multi-agency cooperation were able to locate the places where this content was being produced.

Detectives identified the suspect as **Rodney Travis Jr., 27, of Chesterfield.**

On Friday, February 13, 2026, alongside members of Henrico's Commonwealth's Attorney's Office and Chesterfield Police, Mr. Travis was arrested at his residence in Chesterfield County. He was transported to Henrico County Jail West where he was charged with one count of animal cruelty.

Several cats have been seized and are receiving proper veterinarian care. Investigators continue to locate other potentially abused animals and process evidence collected at the scenes. This is an active investigation and additional charges are forthcoming.

Anyone with further information about this investigation is asked to contact Henrico Police at (804) 501-5000. You can also submit tips anonymously via Crime Stoppers at (804) 780-1000 or by using P3tips.com.

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Office of Public Affairs

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