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# 16-year-old worker: Maggots poured from box of chicken at NH mansion where 84 dogs rescued

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WOLFEBORO — Employees of the woman arrested for animal cruelty against over 80 Great Danes reveal the "deplorable" conditions the dogs lived in and they worked in.

The conditions the Great Danes were living in were revealed in photos to Megan Fichter at Lakes Region Humane Society by a 16-year-old who was hired by the homeowner's office manager Julia Smith.

According to the police affidavit, when the juvenile entered the house on her May 2, her first day, the smell inside made her sick and "want to gag." It continued to say that inside the house were "piles of trash and empty boxes covered in chicken juice. There were maggots and bugs covering the floor where some of the dogs were living."

The new employee described to police that the dogs were fed a raw chicken diet. The affidavit describes that there were boxes of spoiled chicken in a refrigerator, and the 16-year-old said when she picked them up, maggots poured from the bottom of the boxes.

Other moments, such as loading trash bags with a dead puppy and watching the dogs relieve themselves on the house floor stood out to the girl and led to her decision to report the conditions.

That same day, she took pictures of various places throughout the house and reported the "deplorable" conditions to Fichter.

Marilyn Kelly, from Conway Area Humane Society, has worked with animals, specifically dogs for 20 years and as of May 24, worked part time for Fay for approximately three weeks. Kelly immediately reported the deplorable conditions back to the Conway Area Humane Society.

On numerous occasions, Kelly observed boxes of frozen chicken to be left out overnight and spoiled, Fay then instructed her to feed the spoiled chicken to the dogs. According to the affidavit, she also witnessed Fay stapling a dog's wound shut after a fight. Other wounds included pen sores from "happy tail" where the tail hits the kennel, cuts open and doesn't heal. She said one room was covered with blood from eight dogs that have the condition.

Among the severe conditions the dogs lived in, they stayed in their kennels 23.75 hours out of the day, and only went outside for 10 to 15 minutes to drink what was described as "puddle water," the only water they could drink as water was forbidden to be inside the kennels, the affidavit states. Often after the weekend, Kelly said she would notice the dogs were not let out over the weekend, meaning they did not get any water.

Toward the end of May and the beginning of June, Kelly sent an email revealing some of the dogs wounds and later spoke with Tona McCarthy, director of Field Service Investigations at Pope Memorial SPCA in Concord about the worsening "deplorable" living conditions.

In several examinations of the rescued Great Danes, open wounds, ear mites, ulcer sores between the paw toes, completely missing paw pads and the K-9 papilloma virus, a highly contagious herpes-like virus, were discovered in many of the dogs. The examinations also indicated that the dogs have bloody scabs, elevated eye lids, and a body conditioning score of either 2 or 3 indicating the dogs are too thin.

In addition to the large number of dogs living in the home, it was revealed during the investigation that Fay's son, Edward Fay, also resides in the home.

Under her terms of bail, Fay is not allowed to return to the premises and cannot acquire any more dogs until the case is settled.

She is scheduled to appear in court at 8 a.m. Aug. 2.