

WMUR
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By Mike Cronin

ROCHESTER, N.H. —

A New Hampshire man is facing animal cruelty charges after police said he used a stun gun on his own dog.

Rochester police were called on Oct. 15 to Amazon Park, where witnesses told them Gage White, 22, shocked Cario, a mastiff mix, twice with a stun gun.

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“It could've been some form of discipline to the dog, but, again, we feel that it was a negligent act,” Rochester Police Capt. Jason Thomas said.

“The dog was timid around Mr. White. It would cower down when he tried to call for it, tail between the legs, ears down, so that led them to believe that he's been mistreating his dog,” Thomas said.

Officers left with Cario that night, but police said the issues didn't end there.

Later that evening, a neighbor confronted White, and he allegedly put the stun gun on the neighbor's chest but didn't shock him.

White turned himself in on Monday and is charged with cruelty to animals and simple assault.

The dog is now under the care of Rochester Veterinary Clinic and is going to a Humane Society this week and eventually can be adopted.

Police said White voluntarily surrendered the dog, so regardless of how this case ends, he'll never be able to get Cario back.

White's neighbors said they were disturbed by the allegations.

“When I first heard about that, I was like ‘Woah.’ A dog going through a stun gun reaction, just think of what it does to a human,” Derek Buzzell said. “Hearing about this kind of nerves me up a little bit because I have cats. I've had a dog.”

“Disturbing. I haven't seen it myself. But me personally, I don't like anybody being cruel to any dogs or any animals,” Troy Gamble said.

White was released on \$1,500 bail and he'll be arraigned next month.

News 9 was not able to reach him for comment.