

Portsmouth man faces animal cruelty charges

seacoastonline.com

Posted Jan 13, 2019 at 7:14 PM Updated Jan 13, 2019 at 7:14 PM

PORTSMOUTH -- A city man faces three charges of cruelty to animals after a witness recorded video of the alleged incidents and handed it over to police.

Portsmouth police began an investigation to allegations of animal cruelty that occurred on Monday, Dec. 31, 2018 on Anne Avenue, according to a statement released Sunday by the Portsmouth Police Department. A witness recorded video of three incidents, and voluntarily handed the video over to police.

“The video, which investigators describe as ‘quite disturbing’, depicts the man on one occasion completely lifting the dog off the ground by a neck leash causing the animal to twist freely in the air,” police wrote in the statement. “Another clip captures the man kicking the dog in the ribs violently enough to cause the dog to recoil from the impact. In a third installment, the man is seen repeatedly violently jerking the dog’s leash causing the animal’s neck to snap sideways on numerous occasions.”

David Dantino, 26, of Anne Avenue, Portsmouth, was arrested and charged with three Class B misdemeanor counts of cruelty to animals.