

# Murdered Pit Bull Pulled from River

A dead male pit bull was found in a bag in the Hudson River by Torches restaurant on the Newburgh Waterfront on Wednesday, July 30. According to Hudson Valley SPCA Humane Law Enforcement Chief Gene Hecht, "This is the second dog in two weeks that we've found in this area, this one was in a blue laundry bag with two small holes cut in it so that water would flow in." Hecht continued, "The dog was found with its lungs full of water, so it was alive when it was put into the river, and died from drowning."

The dog, which was white with brown tips on its ears and with tags and a collar, had allegedly been placed head first into the laundry bag, which apparently had been tied closed, but which opened from the motion and movement of floating in the river. City of Newburgh Police removed the dog from the river and an investigation is ongoing into who perpetrated the crime. According to Hecht, any charges brought forth would be felonies because of the fact that the dog was alive when it was tossed, and therefore murdered.

Donations from the community

amounted to a \$4,500 reward that is being offered for anyone with information that leads to an arrest. Anyone with information is asked to call the City of Newburgh Police Department at 561-3131.

## ***A Message from Hudson Valley SPCA Humane Law enforcement Chief Gene Hecht:***

It is always heartbreaking to observe an animal suffering in a situation of abuse or neglect. There exist various ways you can help the animals involved, depending upon the specific details of the situation.

If the animal's life is not in immediate danger, but you suspect neglect or abuse, it may be productive to approach the owner or guardian. If they are not approachable, or if you suspect the animal is suffering from neglect as well as abuse, alert the HUMANE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION of the Hudson Valley SPCA.

Investigators of the Hudson Valley SPCA are Officers, specifically trained and certified, with police powers to enforce animal

anti-cruelty and abuse laws. These powers include the ability to investigate, apply for search warrants, seize animals and property, issue appearance tickets, and arrest offenders. These Officers are experienced and have been trained in abuse, neglect, and animal crime scene investigation.

"The Hudson Valley SPCA humane Law Enforcement Division is the only Law Enforcement Agency in Orange County that specializes in animal abuse, neglect, and cruelty investigations. Our officers are available 24 hours a day at (855) 448-2548 to help your department in any way possible.



**A male pit bull was found dead in a bag in the Hudson River recently, the second in two weeks.**