



BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF CROSKREY

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TO: MEDIA

FROM: SHERIFF TOM CROSKREY

DATE: MARCH 28, 2024

SUBJECT: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

On Tuesday March 26th, 2024, at about 8:45am an email was sent out to local media outlets to schedule a press release for 1:00 pm that afternoon. This press release was going to discuss the recent decision of shooting two dogs. However, after hearing the concerns of citizens during the public comment session at the Benton County Commissioner's Meeting that morning, I elected to cancel the press release. Instead, I asked to meet with the owner of the dogs and the concerned citizens so I could speak with them personally and seek a deeper understanding of their concerns.

That same afternoon, members of the Sheriff's Office command staff and I met with those citizens and provided a forum for them to express their thoughts surrounding the incident. While the actions of the deputies that day adhered to the current policies of the Sheriff's Office, based on the discussion and the concerns mentioned, we will be reviewing and continuously evaluating our policies and procedures to ensure they align with best practices and community expectations.

A workshop has been scheduled with the Board of County Commissioners for April 8th, 2024, where the Sheriff's Office and the Board of County Commissioners will discuss options and plans moving forward. We are prepared to discuss ideas that seek to improve our resources and are dedicated to continually providing the citizens of Benton County with the highest level of public safety.

The input from the community members is crucial in helping us improve our practices and better serve our community. I would like to thank the members of the group we met with for their engagement.

Sheriff Tom Croskrey