

WINONA, Miss. (March 22, 2023) — In Defense of Animals, the international animal protection organization operating Hope Animal Sanctuary and Justice for Animals Campaign in Mississippi, and the Winona Animal Advocacy Group (WAAG) announced that the Winona Board of Alderpersons voted to suspend Chief of Police Roshaun Daniels and Animal Control Officer (dogcatcher) Videll Anderson for their roles in shooting the dogs impounded by the city.

On March 8, 2023, Chief Daniels directed ACO Anderson, his first day on the job, to empty the city pound. The pound was full and the dogs' holding period had long past. The city was receiving complaints that dogs were roaming in yards and on the city's streets.

Within hours a firestorm of condemnation was raging across the city and adjoining counties. Chief Daniels had equipped ACO Anderson with a weapon and an inmate to transport the impounded dogs near the water treatment center and shoot them.

On a tip, In Defense of Animals' Justice for Animals Campaign Senior Campaigner Doll Stanley and WAAG member Carol Griffin uncovered the dead dogs in the city dumpster and photographed them.

Stanley represented a standing-room-only audience of citizens who came to vent their emotions over the method

the city chose to end the lives of the innocent dogs who through no fault of their own were captured and impounded. Protesters held signs outside of city hall and passers honked horns in support of the cause.

“With the aid of Alderwoman Sylvia Clark, the campaign to gain justice for the dogs is hopeful. While the Board didn’t vote to terminate the chief and the ACO, they suspended them without pay for ten days and put the matter under consideration,” said Doll Stanley.” “The very thought that Winona City authorities would choose to save city funds by callously executing trusting and innocent animals is appalling,” added Stanley.

In Defense of Animals’ Hope Animal Sanctuary will offer free spays and neuters for dogs adopted from the city pound until the allocated fund is depleted and independently from the city.

In Defense of Animals, a 501-c3 registered with the state of Mississippi, has worked with law enforcement and the judicial system for 30 years, rescuing, caring for, and placing them with loving guardians at our Hope Animal Sanctuary.