

ANOTHER ABUSE CHARGE LIKELY AGAINST KENNEL OWNER: SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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WINCHESTER — A man awaiting trial on animal cruelty charges will likely be charged again for allegedly abusing a dog in August.

The Frederick County Sheriff's Office is completing a new investigation involving Russell Ebersole, owner of Aberdeen Acres Pet Care Center in Stephenson, according to Capt. Aleck Beeman.

The owners of a Shar-Pei mix filed a complaint on Aug. 18 after Ebersole allegedly struck and choked the pet.

Beeman said the owners left their dog at Aberdeen Acres for a training session, and during a demonstration afterward when the dog didn't listen, Ebersole allegedly abused it in front of them.

Aberdeen Acres is a grooming, training and boarding facility that specializes in basic obedience, agility, protection and service dog training.

Beeman said the Sheriff's Office will likely place a charge of animal cruelty against Ebersole by Monday.

Ebersole faces 13 other misdemeanor counts of animal cruelty in Frederick County Circuit Court for alleged abuses stemming from an August 2011 investigation.

The trial is set for 9 a.m. on Oct. 3.

The investigation began in 2011 when two former employees filed a complaint stating that Ebersole used abusive training practices. He is accused of choking, beating, kicking and torturing several dogs in his care.

Ebersole has previously denied the allegations against him.

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