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## **Leesburg Man Charged with Shooting Cat in Sterling**

Leesburg, VA – A tip from a concerned citizen has led to the arrest of a Leesburg man in connection with the shooting of a cat in Sterling in November 2020. On January 4, 2021, Loudoun County Animal Services (LCAS) Humane Law Enforcement Officers, in partnership with the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, executed an arrest warrant, taking 28-year-old Jonathan Tyler Davis of Leesburg into custody.

The cat in question was found in November of 2020 suffering from multiple injuries and fractures due to being shot by a pellet gun and subsequently euthanized due to the severity of his condition.

The tip implicating Davis was received following the announcement that the reward for information about this incident and other recent cat shootings had been increased to more than \$8,000, all of which has been donated and raised by local animal welfare groups and citizens.

“Through this investigation, we have felt the support of our community and we are relieved to be able to give them an answer in this case,” said Humane Law Enforcement Chief Chris Brosan. “We remain dedicated and will continue our investigations until justice has been served for all these cats and their heartbroken families.”

Davis was released on a \$5,000 bond and is scheduled to be arraigned on January 26, 2021. A conviction of a class 6 felony is punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$2,500. Any person convicted may be prohibited by the court from possession or ownership of companion animals.

LCAS continues to investigate other cat shooting incidents that occurred in 2020 in Loudoun County.

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*Loudoun County Animal Services provides animal welfare, sheltering and animal control services, and, as the only open-admission animal shelter in Loudoun County, receives approximately 2,000 lost, seized, abandoned or homeless pets each year.*