



# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CLINTON "ART" HOLMES CITED FOR 28 INSTANCES OF ANIMAL CRUELTY IN BARTO**

NORRISTOWN, Pa.--Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Douglass Township Police Chief Barry L. Templin, Jr., announce the filing of criminal charges against Clinton Arthur Holmes, small animal manager of Holmes Farms, Inc., in Barto, Pa. Holmes, 49, of Alburtis, Pa., is being cited for 28 instances of Animal Cruelty.

The filing of the 28 citations are for violations of Cruelty to Animals, §5511(c) of the Pennsylvania Criminal Code. A thorough investigation by Detective Corporal Robert Evans of the Douglass Township Police Department found that 28 animals at Holmes Farms were not being properly cared for and were in need of veterinary care. They were seven gerbils, seven chinchillas, six hamsters, six Guinea pigs, one rabbit and one ferret. Animal Cruelty is a summary offense, and each citation carries a punishment of up to 90 days in jail and a \$50 to \$750 fine per citation.

"Not taking care of an animal's basic needs like providing medical care is taken seriously under the law, and personally, having pets, it's hard for me to understand," said Steele. "The investigation revealed that these 28 animals were sick and not being properly cared for. The defendant could possibly serve jail time and could be ordered to pay up to \$21,000 in fines."

The defendant will receive the citations, and a court date will be set. The case is being handled by Assistant District Attorney Lindsay O'Brien, who in addition to her duties as Captain of the Domestic Violence Unit specializes in animal cruelty cases for the DA's Office.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

*CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.*