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Arrest in Alleged Animal Cruelty Case



ALBANY, NY – District Attorney P. David Soares today announced that JOHN GEHRLEIN, 45, of Albany, was arraigned on (1) Count of Aggravated Cruelty to Animals, a Class E Felony, before the Honorable Thomas A. Breslin in Albany County Supreme Court this morning.

An Albany County Grand Jury previously returned an indictment alleging that GEHRLEIN, on December 23, 2016, did intentionally kill an orange colored cat with aggravated cruelty.

On December 23, 2016, at approximately 1:00 P.M., members of the Albany Police Department responded to a report that a dead cat was found in the back yard of GEHRLEIN's home on Ryckman Avenue in the City of Albany. Officers arrived to find the cat's throat had been cut with a sharp object to the point that it was almost decapitated. Following an investigation, GEHRLEIN was arrested.

GEHRLEIN pleaded not guilty to the charge and remains in custody. No new court appearance dates have been scheduled at this time.

Assistant District Attorney Jennifer McCanney of the Special Victims Unit is prosecuting this case.

For more information please contact Cecilia Walsh at (518) 275-4710 or cecilia.walsh@albanycountyny.gov

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***All charged individuals are presumed innocent
until proven guilty.***