



June 2025 Law Department Court-Held Animals Update
July 11, 2025

Enclosed are the two June 2025 Animal Charts for your review. This monthly update is not privileged and can be distributed publicly as you deem appropriate.

Surrender/Forfeiture of Animals- 23 Animals in June

- As of July 11, 2025, twenty-one (21) dogs were voluntarily surrendered through the efforts of the Solicitor General's Office. In addition, an additional two (2) animals were forfeited by operation of law due to cost of care not being paid. This brings the total number of court-held animals surrendered since late 2022 (either voluntarily or through successful motions to dispose/cost petitions) to **344**.

Pending Cost of Care Civil Lawsuits ("Cost Lawsuits") – 10 Animals

- As of July 11, 2025, seventeen (17) Cost Lawsuits have been filed. There are currently three (3) pending lawsuits, which account for **10** court-held animals. Details on the status of each case are provided below.
- **As of July 11, 2025, there are 609 animals in the shelter. There are 19 court-held animals in the County's shelter and 3 in foster care for a total of 22 court-held animals (3.6% of the total animal shelter population).**

Specific Update by Case-

- ***Auburn Hood*** (2 animals-impounded November 2023)-The Cost Lawsuit was filed on March 13, 2025, and a hearing was scheduled for May 8, 2025. Ms. Hood did not attend the hearing, and the Court issued an order granting the cost petition on May 15, 2025. Due to Ms. Hood's failure to pay costs of care, her two dogs were forfeited to the County by operation of law.
- ***Melvin Johnson/Queena Robinson*** (7 Animals-impounded August 2023)-The first Cost Lawsuit was filed on September 17, 2024, but service was never completed due to an inability to serve Mr. Johnson and Ms. Robinson, who no longer live in Dekalb County.

The Law Department voluntarily dismissed the lawsuit and refiled it on April 1, 2025. Both Mr. Johnson and Ms. Robinson have been served. In addition, both Mr. Johnson and Ms. Robinson have been arrested on their active warrants related to the cruelty charges. A hearing in this case has been scheduled for August 7, 2025.

- ***Charles Meadows*** (2 animals)-A Cost Lawsuit was filed on June 26, 2025. Service has not yet been completed.
- ***Marquez Thomas*** (1 animal)-A Cost Lawsuit was filed on June 26, 2025. Service has not yet been completed.
- Civil demands for Andrerius Thomas (1 animal), Zandrea Johnson (2 animals), and Adrienne Adams (2 animals), Marian Burley (6 animals) and Gregory McBurrow (9animals) were mailed out on June 24, 2025. Civil demands for Leandra Dessinord (1 animal), Cindy Dukes (1 animal), Shane Martinez (1 animal), Shareef Muwwakkil (3 animals) and Jermaine Anderson (1 animal) will be sent out in the coming weeks.