



City of Chowchilla POLICE DEPARTMENT

Date: March 10, 2008
To: Media
From: David Noblett, Police Sergeant
Subject: Cruelty to Animal Arrest

At approximately 8:45 a.m. on Monday, March 10, 2008, the Chowchilla Police Department received a call from a citizen who reported a man shot a dog with a shotgun in the 100 Block of Washington Road. The citizen stated the dog was involved in a fight with another dog. Officers arriving on scene located a deceased pitbull with a gunshot wound in the 1500 Block of Defender Street. Witnesses told officers the suspect had run into an apartment complex in the 100 block of Washington Road carrying the shotgun.

Officers went to the apartment complex and located the suspect, David Dabbs (22) of Chowchilla, coming out of one of the apartments. Dabbs admitted to the officers that he shot the pitbull. A search of Dabbs apartment led to the discovery of the other pitbull and the shotgun. The second pitbull sustained moderate injuries from the fight and was later taken to a local veterinarian for treatment of the injuries.

Dabbs was taken into custody and charged with cruelty to animals, dog fighting-causing to fight, and discharging a firearm in a gross negligent manner. All three crimes are felonies under California Law. The crime of discharging a firearm in a gross negligent manner was a result of Dabbs firing the gun in a residential area. At the time of the incident, other citizens were attempting to break up the dogs. "Thankfully no one else was injured in this incident" stated Sgt. Noblett of the Chowchilla Police Department. "This was a senseless crime for all parties involved". Dabbs was booked at the Madera County Department of Corrections on the above charges.