



Robert P. Astorino, Westchester County Executive

NEWS RELEASE

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BRONX VETERINARIAN CHARGED IN ILLEGAL DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL REMAINS

A Bronx veterinarian has been arrested by Westchester County Police and charged in the illegal disposal of animal remains along the Hutchinson River Parkway.

Andrew Manesis, 66, of Oak Street, New Canaan, Conn., was charged with Scheme to Defraud 2nd Degree, Violation of Environmental Conservation Law and two counts of Petit Larceny. All charges are misdemeanors.

The arrest is the result of a joint investigation by the General Investigations Unit of the Westchester County Police and the Humane Law Enforcement Division of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Westchester.

The investigation began April 5 when the remains of 35 animals – 26 cats, eight dogs and a lizard – were found in dense brush along the northbound Hutchinson River Parkway in Harrison near the junction of Westchester Avenue. Necropsies of the remains revealed that the animals had died of natural causes.

Detectives were able to use evidence collected at the scene to identify the owners of two of the animals and link the cases to Animal Clinic and Surgery of Throggs Neck PC, also known as Throggs Neck Animal Hospital, on East Tremont Avenue in the Bronx.

“Dr. Manesis was entrusted by his clients to dispose of their pets’ remains in a proper and dignified manner,” Public Safety Commissioner George N. Longworth said. “Instead, it appears he simply pulled off to the side of a local highway and tossed the animal carcasses into the woods.”

Detectives are continuing their effort to determine the owners of the other animals that were found along the highway. Anyone with information can contact detectives at 1-877-220-3560. The county police also accept tips by text and email at TIPS@WCCOPS.COM.

Manesis was arrested Friday and was issued appearance tickets requiring him to appear on June 5 in Harrison Town Court.

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