



# Captive Wildlife Report

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
 10247 N. SUNCOAST BLVD.  
 CRYSTAL RIVER, FL

Report Date / Time <b>1/28/2021 5:24:19 PM</b>	Report Number <b>ISR087569 (01)</b>	Report Case/CAD Number <b>FWNC21OFF000440 / FWNC21CAD000766</b>	Reporting Officer Rank / ID <b>INVESTIGAT / WK370</b>	Reporting Officer Name <b>KENNETH HOLMES</b>
Originating Agency ORI <b>FL0218000</b>	Reported to Agency Date <b>1/21/2021 4:07:40 PM</b>	Occur Date Range <b>01/21/2021 16:07:40 -</b>	Jurisdiction <b>Private Property</b>	Status: Clearance:
Offense Description <b>S25 FIRE</b>				

## LOCATION(S)

County <b>GILCHRIST</b>	Location Type <b>INCIDENT LOCATION</b>	Location Description <b>Class I &amp; II Wildlife Location</b>						
Street Number <b>2219</b>	Street <b>SW 45TH AVE</b>	Apt/Lot/Bldg	City <b>BELL</b>	State <b>FI</b>	Zip Code <b>32619</b>	Phone Number <b>407-492-3204</b>	Ext.	

## INVESTIGATION

Was Body Camera Used?	<b>Yes</b>
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## Person: LICENSEE

First Name <b>ROBERT</b>	Middle Name <b>GENE</b>	Last Name <b>MULLEN</b>	Suffix	Race <b>WHITE</b>	Sex <b>MALE</b>	Height <b>5'09"</b>	Weight <b>200</b>	Hair <b>BROWN</b>	Eyes <b>BLUE</b>
MNI # <b>FWC13MNI017991</b>	SSN	Date of Birth <b>02/28/1966</b>	Age <b>54</b>	ID Type <b>A</b>	Drivers License or other ID <b>M450767660680</b>	State <b>FL</b>	OCA / Agency ID <b>2755</b>		
Place of Birth:	<b>OHIO, OH, UNITED STATES</b>								

Addresses	<b>• RESIDENCE / 2219 SW 45TH AVE, BELL, FI 32619 / 407-492-3204</b>
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## Narrative: COMPLAINT INSPECTION

Narrative Date/Time <b>1/28/2021 5:30:17 PM</b>	Narrative Synopsis <b>FIRE DESTROYED TRAILER HOUSING WILDLIFE KILLING WILDLIFE.</b>		
Reporting Officer <b>KENNETH HOLMES</b>	Officer Rank <b>INVESTIGAT</b>	Officer ID No <b>WK370</b>	Officer Org/Unit <b>FWNC\NC REGIONALACH UA</b>
Officer Signature 	Officer Agency <b>FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>		

On 01/21/2021, I, Inv. Kenneth J. Holmes of the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission responded to a fire at a captive wildlife facility at 2219 SW 45th Avenue, Bell in Gilchrist County, Florida. Robert G. Mullen (W/M; DOB 02/28/66) reported a trailer housing wildlife had caught fire and he needed assistance. R. Mullen had valid commercial licenses (ESA, ESC, App ID 11726) for the possession of captive wildlife at the location. Enroute, USDA Veterinary Medical Officer E. Nohely Gonzalez, DVM contacted me. She advised R. Mullen called her and advised he would need cages to secure wildlife. I reached out to a local licensee who stated they could supply cages if needed.

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Upon arrival I activated my body camera. I observed Gilchrist County Sheriff's deputies, Trenton Public Safety Department including Chief Matt Rexroat and Gilchrist Fire Rescue personal were already on scene. GCSO Investigator Todd Holder also arrived on scene. He was conducting the fire investigation. The fire was already extinguished, and a single wide mobile trailer, heretofore known as the WL trailer, was a total loss (Figure 1-4). I had prior knowledge the trailer was used to house wildlife and other small animals.

I met with R. Mullen. He stated all the wildlife housed in the WL trailer died in the fire. He managed to rescue three birds that were in a cage directly outside the trailer; a Blue & Gold macaw, a Green wing macaw and a Citron-crested cockatoo. He put the birds in the cab of his vehicle and we later found enough cages on the property to house them. The only other wildlife possessed was a Class II 0.1 Fishing cat that was in a cage a distance from the WL trailer and was not physically affected by the fire. He provided a list of the wildlife that died as follows:

- 0.0.1 American Alligator (~4 feet long)
- 0.1 Cinnamon capuchin monkey
- 1.0 Ring-tailed lemur
- 0.1 kinkajou
- 0.0.1 Ferret
- 0.0.2 Hedgehogs
- 0.0.2 Guinea pigs
- 0.0.1 Sun conure
- Four (4) non-venomous snakes (2 Red-tailed boas, 1 Ball python and 1 Grey Rat snake)
- Nine (9) small domestic animals (5 cats, 1 rabbit and 3 rats)

I recovered the carcasses of the kinkajou and the capuchin monkey (Figs 1-2 & 5-6). I did not observe any other animal remains within the WL trailer, but did not move items. R. Mullen later contacted me and stated he recovered the remains of the Ring-tailed lemur, the alligator and one of the snakes. No other remains were found. I advised him I did not need the remains and he could bury them.

I interviewed R. Mullen and was present when being interviewed by other agency personnel. He stated he had been in the WL trailer performing food preparation. He said when he left the WL trailer, he heard the capuchin give to two alarm sounds, but thought nothing of it at the time. He went was in his RV and about half hour later he smelled smoke. He saw heavy smoke coming from WL trailer. He tried entering, but the smoke was too heavy even at ground level. He attempted to get to the wildlife by breaking through the wall, but caging material prevented him from gaining access. He said he then tried to get in through a window, but when he broke it flames started bellowing out. Due to the amount of smoke, he said the animals inside the trailer were already dead by the time he smelled the smoke. He said he never heard any of the animals when he attempted to get into the trailer.

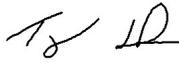
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It appeared the fire started in the kitchen on the east side of WL trailer where based on the amount of damage indicating where the fire burned hottest (Figs 1 & 4). Inv. Holder also observed fused wires indicating possible arcing. There were space heaters, but R. Mullen stated they were not being used at the time of the fire. There were some issues with meter and wiring going to the WL trailer. Deputy David Reeves who had an electrician background stated the meter and wiring were not up-to-code. Central Florida Electric personnel was dispatched to the scene and they verified the main service and wiring were not up to code. R. Mullen stated the meter and wiring was pre-existing and he stated paid an electric bill every month.

GSCO considers the cause of fire was undetermined, but was unintentional (GCSO21OFF000068; report attached). No further action required.

End of report

**Officer: Approving Supervisor (Supplement 01)**

Officer Name <b>HARRISON, TYLER</b>	Officer Rank <b>LIEUTENANT</b>	Officer ID No <b>WN187</b>	Officer Agency <b>FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>
Approval Date / Time <b>2/1/2021 9:27:54 AM</b>	Officer Signature 		

Sup #	Officer Name Rank / ID #	Involvement On Report / Reporting Role	Officer Agency Org/Unit
01	<b>KENNETH HOLMES INVESTIGAT WK370</b>	<b>INVESTIGATOR / REPORTING OFFICER</b>	<b>FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FWNCINC REGIONALACHUA</b>
01	<b>HARRISON, TYLER LIEUTENANT WN187</b>	<b>APPROVING SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION FNNWNWREGIONIGHQ</b>

The undersigned certifies and swears that he/she has just and reasonable grounds to believe that the above named Defendant, committed violation(s), of law, on the below date(s) and time(s), as listed in the narratives associated with this report:

**Officer: Reporting Officer (Supplement01)**

Officer Name <b>KENNETH HOLMES</b>	Office Rank <b>INVESTIGAT</b>	Officer ID No <b>WK370</b>	Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority This the _____ day of _____, _____ DEPUTY OF THE COURT, NOTARY OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
Officer Agency <b>FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>			
Officer Signature 			