

## PRESS RELEASE

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## THE RHODE ISLAND SPCA SEIZES LITTER OF PUPPIES AT DOGGIE STYLES PET SPA AND SEEKING WHEREABOUTS OF THE OWNER WHO HAS AN ACTIVE WARRANT FOR HIS ARREST

**[Riverside, Rhode Island, June 9, 2020]** — On 6/9/20, the Rhode Island SPCA Division of Law Enforcement, with the assistance of the Rhode Island State Police and Rhode Island State Veterinarian, executed a search warrant at Doggie Styles Pet Spas, located at 21 Sayles Hill Road in North Smithfield.

The focus of the search warrant was related to a complaint the RISPCA received regarding six (6) French Bulldog puppies at that location, that were allegedly in need of immediate veterinary care. The six puppies were seized and returned to the Rhode Island SPCA, where they were immediately examined by a licensed veterinarian. The conditions of the puppies are being withheld at this time and they are not available for adoption.

The Rhode Island SPCA and the Rhode Island State Police are seeking the whereabouts of the owner, John Froias, as there is an active warrant for his arrest. The arrest warrant was issued for a bail violation, when Froias was found to be in custody and control of a female French Bulldog, when he presented her for a caesarian section at a local veterinary hospital in late May.

In January, 2020, Froias was charged with multiple crimes related to mistreatment/cruelty to animals, as well as the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine. As a condition of Froias's bail, the court ordered he not have "care, custody or control" of any animals.

**About the Rhode Island SPCA:** Founded in 1870, the Rhode Island SPCA is the oldest humane organization in the state of Rhode Island and the third oldest in the United States and "Speaks for those who cannot speak for themselves". As a private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, it does not receive any local, state or federal funding nor is it affiliated with any national humane organization. It relies solely on donations from individuals, businesses and foundations.

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