



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For release: July 20, 2018

Contact: Lori Boone, 410-313-2236
laboone@howardcountymd.gov

Laurel man indicted on felony animal cruelty charges

A Laurel man is facing charges including felony animal cruelty, second-degree assault and malicious destruction of property relating to an incident that occurred last month. Omar Beniah-Jovan Gertman, 24, was indicted July 11.

Officers were called to the 9600 block of Covered Wagon Drive on June 12 after a woman called 911 and reported a family member had stabbed the family dog and fled the residence. Through investigation, officers learned Gertman also assaulted an acquaintance and destroyed household items including a TV and coffee maker.

Animal Control officers responded and transported the dog to an emergency animal hospital. The Yorkshire Terrier, Boo, was disemboweled and not initially expected to survive his injuries but has since recovered.

Police located Gertman at a hotel in a neighboring jurisdiction at a later date and took him into custody. He is being held without bond at the Howard County Detention Center.

###