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**John A. Shilts**  
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Chief Deputy

**Press Release**

**“Cockfighting Case”**  
**Release Date: 01-27-2015**

On January 24, 2015 at approximately 1313 hrs the St. Croix County Sheriff's Office received information of a possible “cockfighting” event being held at a farm located at 1721 315<sup>th</sup> Street in the Town of Glenwood, Wisconsin.

On arrival deputies found a working dairy farm with several people on site. In an area away from the dairy barn deputies heard the sound of what they described as “loud chicken noises”. As they approached that area they observed several individuals gathered around a “makeshift shelter”. A large number of these individuals were observed running from the area of the shelter into a wooded area.

Upon closer inspection deputies notice a “Cockfighting Ring” as well as other items that indicated that a cockfight had taken place or was taking place.

Deputies from St. Croix County and Polk County along with Wisconsin State Patrol Troopers, and officers from the Woodville and Baldwin Police Departments took 19 people into custody. These individuals were transported to the St. Croix County Jail where they were booked in for being a spectator at a Cockfight. All 19 subjects posted bail and were released.

The owner of the farm, Dr. Marvin Johnson (a veterinarian from Roberts, Wisconsin), “has been extremely helpful from the onset and continues to assist my office even today” says St. Croix County Sheriff John Shilts. “We have concluded that Dr. Johnson had no knowledge of the event. Dr. Johnson assisted deputies on scene with helping to ensure the safety of the roosters found on site. He has definitely established he does not condone this activity and has cooperated at every level with my Office. Dr. Johnson has also made it

clear to his employees that they are expected to cooperate with our investigation to the extent that they can”.

Again this is a working dairy farm and although Dr. Johnson attends to his dairy herd and there were some chickens on the property that he was aware of; those chickens belonged to his employees for accepted farming practices.

The investigation is active and as such information is limited at this point. Updates may be sent out as more information is developed and involved persons may be identified.