

The Kentucky State Police in Dry Ridge have arrested two persons as a result of an investigation into alleged animal cruelty in Harrison County.



Haskell Risner, 51 and Dinah Risner, 49, both of 3281 Oddville-Sunrise Road, Cynthiana were arrested early Friday afternoon and charged with eight counts each of Cruelty to Animals 2nd degree pursuant to a Harrison County arrest warrant. They were lodged in the Bourbon County Jail on \$250 bond each.

Acting on information submitted by a group of concerned citizens, the State Police began an investigation into the health and well-being of horses owned by the Risners on property in rural Harrison County. Investigation and photographic evidence culminated in the issuance of the arrest warrants and the service of search warrants Friday morning.

The basis of this complaint was that a number of horses did not appear to have received adequate feeding and health care.

Officers did not seize any animals nor seize any additional evidence during the service of the warrants and only gathered additional photographic evidence.



Kentucky law states that Cruelty to Animals 2nd degree is applicable when a person intentionally or wantonly subjects an animal to cruel or injurious mistreatment through a variety of means to include failing to provide adequate food, drink, or vet care.

Class A misdemeanors are punishable by a maximum penalty of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of up to \$500.

In March of 2008 Dinah and Haskell Risner accepted a plea agreement.

They both pled guilty to 8 counts of cruelty, paid a \$100.00 fine and a 90 day jail sentence was probated to no ownership of horse for two years and no second offenses.

Speak Up for Horses assisted in the placement of some of the 35 horses by purchasing them and adopting them out to carefully screened homes. Thank you to those who helped us along the way to buy hay to keep these horses alive during the legal process and to help us purchase those we could.

Your donations thru PayPal will support our efforts in helping more neglected horse.