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KYW Newsradio

Jenkintown Man Fined for Starving His Dog

by KYW's David Madden

A Jenkintown man has been ordered to pay a fine after being found guilty of animal cruelty. His crime -- nearly starving a bulldog to death.

Paul Cauchi's eight-year-old English Bulldog, Winston, had to be put down weeks after being taken out of his home by animal control officers and placed with Joanne Hale of Heaven Sent Bulldog Rescue.

"He would have been a 75-pound dog, had he been taken care of. He was 47 pounds when he came into my care."

Magistrate Justice Elizabeth McHugh originally assessed a fine of over \$400, which Cauchi appealed. He lost that appeal Thursday, and according to court officials, has worked out a payment schedule. For her part, Hale wishes the fine had been a bit more steep, but feels the group made its' point that pets are more than just someone's property.

Since Cauchi represented himself in court, we called his home seeking comment. A woman who answered the phone said he would not be available.

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