

# Tioga County Sheriff's Office



From  
**Sheriff Gary W. Howard**

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**News Release**  
**Monday, March 02, 2026**

On February 24, 2026, the Tioga County Sheriff's Office responded to an animal complaint, located on Ellis Creek Road in the Town of Barton. The report stated that numerous kittens were intentionally dropped off on the side of the roadway, near a bridge, on the night of February 23, 2026. Sheriff's Office personnel responded to the area and were able to collect three kittens which were later taken to Spencer Animal Hospital for care and treatment. The following day, February 25, 2026, an additional kitten was recovered from that same location and taken to Spencer Animal Hospital for care and treatment. Upon completion of the investigation, the following individuals were arrested in connection with this complaint:

- Jessica L. Travis, age 42 of Waverly NY, is charged with Agg & Markets Law 353 Torture or injuring animals/failure to provide sustenance (4 counts); Agg & Markets Law 355 Abandonment of animals (4 counts) and PL 105.00 Conspiracy 6<sup>th</sup> (1 count).
- An 18-year-old male of Waverly is charged with Agg & Markets Law 353 Torture or injuring animals/failure to provide sustenance (4 counts); Agg & Markets Law 355 Abandonment of animals (4 counts) and PL 105.00 Conspiracy 6<sup>th</sup> (1 count).
- A 19-year-old female of Waverly is charged with PL 105.00 Conspiracy 6<sup>th</sup> (1 count).

All the individuals were provided with appearance tickets with all charges returnable to the Town of Barton Court at a later scheduled date and time. The Tioga County Sheriff's Office would like to thank Spencer Animal Hospital, Tioga County District Attorney's Office, the Broome County District Attorney's Office and local farm owners for their assistance with this investigation. All kittens were accounted for and provided new homes.



Approved by Captain Trevor Yaeger  
Posted 3/2/26 1:10 PM by Diane Rockwell