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Douglas: Man kills cat as act of revenge

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"I sure wish we could have gotten this cat," Woolery said. "I'm so mad at this man, if you can even call him a man."

To contact Woolery about boarding a pet that may be in danger, call (314) 952-6413.

Man kills cat as act of revenge, prosecutors say

Humane Society calls for felony charge of animal torture

By LINDSEY PILCHER
STAFF WRITER

A De Soto man is facing animal abuse charges after allegedly beating his wife's cat to death last week in an apparent act of revenge.

Police say Larry Douglas II, 41, was removed from his home on College Street March 16 after his wife obtained an order of exparte protection against him. The next day, prosecutors say he came back into the home and beat the cat to death.

"He evidently went into the residence where he still had keys and property, took his dog and killed the cat," said Assistant Prosecutor Michael Ravetta of the Jefferson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

De Soto Police Chief Brian Werner said the wife found blood in the house and called police at about 1:10 p.m. March 16.

The cat was later found in a trash bag in Douglas' pick-up truck, and Douglas turned himself in later that evening.

If convicted, Douglas could face up to a year in jail.

"I'm not real fond of people who kill animals for no justifiable reason," Ravetta said, "but I'm not going to be the one making a recommendation for the case."

Jean Woolery of the Jefferson County Humane Society called the cat's death "a very brutal act." She would like to see Douglas charged with a felony count of animal torture.

Woolery has seen similar cases of abuse in Jefferson County before. She said men, and sometimes women, go after animals because they know it is something that will hurt their partner.

"Sometimes it's retaliation because the woman has left or filed an exparte or has threatened to leave," Woolery said. "It's a form of control to make the woman stay."

Woolery said the Jefferson County Humane Society will board pets for free if a woman needs to get out of the house or fears for the animal's safety.

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