



Kenosha Police Department limits animal trapping service

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2020

For further information contact:

Kris Kochman

Community Relations Liaison

City of Kenosha

262-653-4177

kkochman@kenosha.org

KENOSHA – For several years, the Kenosha Police Department has provided a non-essential service to citizens: Trapping and dispatching animals that are not sick or injured, or a threat. The service, carried out by Community Service Officers, was never intended to be a primary function, according to Kenosha Police Chief Daniel Miskinis.

In addition, a significant number of citizens have their own traps and trap animals (sick or not) and then call the KPD for assistance in disposing of those animals. Each year, over 700 calls to deal with private traps on private property are handled by CSOs. Private trap calls account for almost 95 percent of all trap calls, Miskinis stated. After discussions with City Administration, Miskinis has decided not to continue police assistance with private traps.

“This service cannot be sustained and it detracts from the police department’s ability to concentrate on issues of greater safety concern,” Miskinis said. “CSO calls for service have increased 20% over the last three years; they simply do not have the time to provide private services.”

CSOs will assess trapping needs on a case by case basis and determine if trapping is needed for safety reasons.

“We will continue to utilize department traps for sick and injured animals; however, we will not respond to calls involving private traps, absent significant extenuating circumstances” he said.

The police department will provide a list of private property trapping businesses upon request -- but will not recommend a specific business.

“The Kenosha Police Department is committed to the safety and welfare of our residents and the cessation of private trap calls allows us to better address more pressing and more impactful issues,” Miskinis said.