

PIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT **MEDIA RELEASE**

Chris Nanos, Sheriff

Guinea Pig Theft Investigation **September 27, 2025**

On September 23, 2025, detectives with the Pima County Sheriff's Department (PCSD) Burglary Unit began investigating the reported theft of 25 guinea pigs from a residence operating as an animal rescue, located in the 5800 block of West Oasis Road in Marana, Arizona.

During the investigation, detectives identified and contacted a witness in Phoenix, which led to a joint investigation between the Pima County Sheriff's Department and the Phoenix Police Department.

On the evening of September 26, 2025, the Phoenix Police Department advised that it had served a search warrant at a residence in Phoenix connected to suspects involved in the theft of the guinea pigs. During the search, 24 guinea pigs were recovered. Detectives learned that one guinea pig had died prior to recovery. The remaining animals were safely returned to the Marana-based rescue.

Earlier in the investigation, detectives reviewed surveillance footage from the night of the incident, which showed two juvenile females at the scene. The video has also been circulated on social media. The individuals were identified as two 14-year-old girls from the Phoenix area. A third suspect, identified as 47-year-old Heather Jansen, is the mother of one of the juveniles and is known to the animal rescue.

This remains an active investigation. Criminal charges are pending and may include burglary, possession of stolen property, and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. All charges will be reviewed by the Pima County Attorney's Office.

For further information contact the Public Information Office at (520) 237-3740 or pcsdpio@sheriff.pima.gov.

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