

# Austin man who claimed to be a dog trainer, faces nine counts of animal cruelty

[KLBJ Newsroom](#)

Apr. 30, 2015 |



An Austin man is charged with nine counts of animal abuse after finding 14 severely underweight Greyhounds in his care that he was supposed to be training to race.

Detective Tim Divens says a woman in Florida sent Darwin Plummer the dogs and paid him \$2100 a month over several months. She became concerned when she could not reach him and filed a theft report on him, "So he ended up with fifteen to begin with. He actually farmed out five to another trainer and then one of the ten he had left died as well. He claims it got hit by a car, but we have no way to prove if that's true or not."

The dogs spent another month in Central Texas being rehabilitated and were sent back to the woman in Florida. The charges are Class A misdemeanors.