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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALDWELL POLICE OFFICERS AND ANIMAL CONTROL RESPOND TO ANIMAL CRUELTY CALL

On August 6, 2022 at approximately 5:30 PM, Canyon County Dispatch received a call regarding a possible animal cruelty in the one thousand block of North 7th Avenue in the city of Caldwell. The caller stated that they heard a dog "yelping" outside and subsequently observed a male individual hitting a dog in front of their home. The caller reported they had the incident captured on a "Ring" camera. Shortly thereafter, a Caldwell Police Department Animal Control Officer responded to the area and was unable to locate the suspect or make contact back with the original reporting party; however, a report was generated.

Between August 6, 2022 and August 8, 2022, the original video footage, depicting a man punching a dog, was circulated through social media. This video gained overwhelming attention and was forwarded by community members to Caldwell Officials on August 8, 2022.

On August 8, 2022 at approximately 11:30 AM, Canyon County Dispatch was contacted by a Caldwell resident in his 20's, who reported that he was the male depicted in the aforementioned video, prompting Caldwell Police Animal Control personnel to respond to his residence.

The Animal Control Officer examined the dog and found no obvious signs of injury or other indication of suffering; however, the dog and its owner identified through the investigation as the same person and animal, depicted in the video. The dog's owner was cooperative with investigators and this case is currently being investigated for possible criminal charges in conjunction with the County Prosecutor's Office. The dog was not seized at this time and no arrests have been made; however, this is an on-going investigation. Due to the highly publicized and emotional nature of this incident, names and personal information have been withheld from public release.