BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OFANIMAL CONTROL

2490 GILES ROAD

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21225

OFFICE (410) 396-4689 FAX (410) 396-7332

INVESTIGATION REPORT

Date: January 29, 2026

Time: 12:00pm

Street Address: 1292 Gittings Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21225

Name of Resident/Owner: Gregory E. Byrd, Jr. and Jonierre R. Tiller

Phone Number: 443-515-1810 or 443-599-3653

On January 29th, 2026, at approximately 12:00pm Baltimore City Animal Enforcement Supervisors Novak and Howard, Animal Enforcement Officers (AEO) Hughes and Goodrich along with Sergeant Hawley and multiple Deputies from the Baltimore City Sheriff's Department arrived at the location to execute an administrative search and seizure warrant. Officers Novak and Howard knocked on the front door and announced themselves multiple times and rang the video doorbell but did not receive a response. After multiple unsuccessful attempts to make contact with someone inside, forced entry was made through the front door. Upon entry, the Sheriff's Department cleared the home and determined the resident(s) were not inside of the location.

All floors and rooms were searched, and dogs were only found in the rear basement area. A document addressed to Gregory E. Byrd Jr. was observed in plain view in the second-floor bedroom and the property is owned by Mr. Byrd Jr.

The basement of the home was separated into two sections, one room in the front and one room in the rear that contained a half-bathroom. When Officers opened the rear door where the dogs were kept, a strong odor of animal waste could be smelled. This room was dark and only had minimal natural light due to presence of one small window. Seven Pit Bull type dogs were observed individually housed in crates in the rear room and one Pit Bull type dog was housed in a crate with seven puppies. In the half-bathroom one Pit Bull type dog was observed housed in a crate. A metal bucket of dirty water was in the center of the floor in the rear room, but the dogs

could not access it. The basement door to the outside could not be utilized because snow was blocking access to the stairway and had not been shoveled.

Descriptions of the dogs and their living conditions in the basement area are as follows:

Dog 1 (149724): a white/tan, female, Pit Bull type dog that was underweight, Body Condition Score (BCS) 3/9 and had a significant skin condition. The dog was wearing a tight thick black collar that was secured with a zip-tie. This dog was housed in the basement inside of a black metal crate that was too small for the dog to comfortably make normal postural adjustments and contained soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided.

Dog 2 (149725): a brown/white/brindle, male, Pit Bull type dog wearing a red collar, that had scarring/fibrotic lesion on the left side of the ventral neck and a heart murmur. This dog was housed in the basement in a black metal crate with soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

Dog 3 (149726): a brown/white, male, Pit Bull type dog that was underweight (BCS 2.5/9), had multiple puncture wounds and scarring to the face, ears and both front legs. The dog also had an abnormal hindlimb gait and was wearing a tight thick black collar. This dog was housed in the basement in a black metal crate with soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided.

Dog 4 (149727): a black/white, male, Pit Bull type puppy that was underweight (BCS 3/9). This dog was housed in the basement inside of a black metal crate that was too small for the dog to comfortably make normal postural adjustments and contained soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

Dog 5 (149728): a brown, female, Pit Bull type dog that was underweight (BCS 2/9), had extensive scarring and puncture wounds to the face, neck and forelimbs, appeared to have a skin condition, had an infection of the base of the left ear and a severe traumatic tail tip lesion with exposed and missing bone. This dog was housed in the basement in a black metal crate that contained soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

Dog 6 (149729): a brown, male, Pit Bull type dog that was underweight (BCS 2/9), had wounds to the face, scarring to the face, muzzle and both front legs and had trauma to the tip of the tail that was actively bleeding. The dog was wearing a tight, thick, black/tan collar. This dog was housed in the basement inside of a black metal crate that was too small for the dog to comfortably make normal postural adjustments and contained soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

Dog 7 (149730): a brindle/white, nursing female, Pit Bull type dog wearing a red collar, that was underweight (BCS 3.5/9). This dog was housed in the basement inside of a black metal crate with seven ~3-day old puppies. The crate was too small for the dog to comfortably make normal postural adjustments due to having the seven puppies in the crate with the mother dog. A heat lamp was placed directly on top of the crate which caused the metal top of the crate to become extremely hot to the touch. Water was not provided.

Puppies (11-17) (149735-149740): seven ~3-day old puppies, five females and two males of various colors were housed in the basement with the mother dog inside of a black metal crate. A heat lamp was placed directly on top of the crate which caused the metal top of the crate to become extremely hot to the touch, but the puppies were cold to the touch. All puppies were mildly dehydrated; their temperatures were too cold to register on a thermometer and the areas around their umbilical cords were inflamed. All puppies were given warm fluids and placed in an incubator upon arrival at the shelter to increase hydration and their body temperatures.

Dog 8 (149731): a tan/white, female, Pit Bull type dog wearing a faded teal colored collar, that was underweight (BCS 2/9). This dog was housed in the basement inside of a black metal crate that was too small for the dog to comfortably make normal postural adjustments and contained soiled wood shavings. Water was not provided. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

Dog 9 (149732): a black/white, male Pit Bull type dog wearing a tight, thick, blue collar. This dog was housed in the basement inside of a black metal crate that was too small for the dog to comfortably make normal postural adjustments. Water was not provided. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

Officers then relocated to the rear yard where one dog could be heard inside of the locked shed. AEO Hughes was able to force open the shed doors, and one Pit Bull type dog was free roaming inside. Additionally, a GMC truck was parked in the rear yard with License Plate number 5GJ1526 (later identified as belonging to Jonierre Renee Tiller through MVA records). Additionally, there were no urine stains or animal waste present in the snow-covered yard indicating the dogs had not been allowed outside for several days as it snowed January 24, 2026, into January 25, 2026, and snow remained covering the ground.

The dog in the shed is described as the following:

Dog 10 (149733): a brown, male, Pit Bull type dog wearing a tight, thick, tan/black collar with the name “Panda” sewn in. The dog was underweight (BCS 3/9), had wounds and scarring to the face/muzzle/front legs/rear legs, left upper lip had old damage with part of the lip missing and extensive scarring to the muzzle and severe dental disease and damage including a badly fractured upper left canine with pulp exposure. This dog was housed in a locked shed located in the rear yard. The shed did not have proper ventilation, natural lighting or a working heat source. The weather was cloudy and 12 degrees. A thermometer was used inside of the shed and the floor registered at 19 degrees and the back wall registered at 27.7 degrees. Animal waste was observed on the floor of the shed and the water provided was frozen. Water was provided upon arrival at the shelter, and the dog immediately drank.

All animals were impounded due to their poor living conditions, their health concerns and breeding without a permit. A copy of the warrant along with the Notice of Impoundment was left on the kitchen counter. Both front and rear doors were secured before leaving the property. Photos and video taken on scene and upon arrival at the shelter.

On 1/30/26 at 810am, a female individual who identified herself as Ms. Janira Taylor, 443-599-3653, called the Office and spoke with Supervisor Novak regarding the dogs and puppies removed from the location. This same phone number was provided by Harford County Animal Control for a Ms. Jonierre Tiller during their investigation of Ms. Tiller and Mr. Byrd, which also matches the name on the vehicle present at the location. Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) asked why Animal Control obtained a warrant and had the right to enter her property and remove the dogs and puppies and Novak informed her all of the information was documented in the warrant left on the kitchen counter. Novak stated a complaint was received on 1/28/26 regarding dogs being kept in the shed and when Animal Control responded we confirmed at least one dog was inside of the shed. Novak stated AEOs met with a Mr. Byrd who was informed in October 2025 he cannot house dogs inside of the shed which he was obviously still doing. Due to Mr. Byrd failing to comply and being in violation again, a warrant was obtained. Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) stated she and her boyfriend, Gregory Byrd, are the owners of the impounded dogs and puppies and would like to get them back. Novak asked if Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) was in possession of the Notice of Impoundment that was left on the kitchen counter and she advised she was. She was informed she and Mr. Byrd must complete steps one through five of the Notice within 72 hours and Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) stated she understood.

On 1/30/26 at 905am, Novak spoke with Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) again regarding the impounded dogs and puppies. Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) stated she did not want any of the dogs altered and she was informed it is a mandatory spay or neuter for all redeemed animals. A male then began speaking and when Novak asked with whom she was now speaking with, the male stated Greg. Novak asked if he was Mr. Byrd and he replied yes. Mr. Byrd asked if the underage puppies were required to be altered and Novak advised the mother dog and puppies would stay in the care and custody of Animal Control until they were old enough to be spayed or neutered. Mr. Byrd stated he did not receive a copy of the warrant that was signed by a judge and Novak advised she was currently looking at a photo taken of the signed copy that was left on his kitchen counter, Mr. Byrd then said he would have to look at it again when it was in front of him. Mr. Byrd stated he did not understand how Animal Control had the right to enter his home and remove the dogs that were inside. Novak advised him to read the affidavit of the warrant, which included the dog housed in the shed and the Health Department Codes referenced including failing to obtain City dog licenses. Mr. Byrd stated he could not argue the dog housed in the shed or that he did not have City dog licenses. Mr. Byrd still felt Animal Control did not have enough probable cause to remove the dogs from inside of the residence, which Novak replied the warrant was signed by a judge. Mr. Byrd asked how the dogs in the home were "In Danger" and Novak stated to name a few, one dog had a broken tail with exposed bone, one dog had multiple open wounds, the cages were too small for some, one dog had an injured tail that was actively bleeding and water was not provided to any of the dogs. Mr. Byrd and Ms. Taylor (Ms. Tiller) said okay and ended the phone call.