



December 18, 2017  
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## Rubio Sentenced to Jail Time for Animal Torture

***Rubio moved out of apartment and left his dog to starve to death***



(Fort Worth, TX) – Justin Ryan Rubio of Fort Worth was sentenced to serve one year in State Jail today for the Animal Cruelty – Torture of his dog, Tara last year. Facing trial, Rubio pled guilty in April to the charge, and a pre-sentencing report was ordered at that time.

Rubio, a bartender, was arrested in March 2016 after the apartment manager at Monticello Crossroads Apartments, where he had lived, found Rubio's dog dead on March 4. Rubio had vacated the apartment weeks earlier, but left the pit-bill mix unattended with no food or water. Rubio admitted to driving to Oklahoma to party with friends during part of the time the dog was trapped.

*"There are no words that can accurately describe Tara's suffering in that apartment," said prosecutor Kacey Fickes. "This defendant was supposed to be the person who loved and protected her, and instead he left her to die."*

*"The true tragedy is that one phone call at any point could have spared Tara from a slow and agonizing death."*

Animal cruelty is a state jail felony punishable by six months to two years in state jail. Rubio, 30, will have to serve each day of the one year jail sentence before being released.

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