



## BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Bremerton Police Department  
Chief Steven Strachan (360-473-5224)

### **Bremerton Police Arrest Suspect in Incident of Animal Cruelty**

Following a tip received after video of the incident was made public; Bremerton Police detectives today interviewed and arrested a 16 year old male for the torture and burning of a cat late Sunday night.

The suspect will not be identified because he is a juvenile, and he will be held in juvenile holding pending review and consideration of a charge of Felony First Degree Animal Cruelty by the Kitsap County Prosecutor's Office. The suspect admitted to using butane as an accelerant.

The 66 year old owner of the cat, who lives within a block of the incident, called to report that he believes he was the owner of the cat identified in media reports, and Kitsap County Animal Control has confirmed that the cat was his.

"This outrageous act against a defenseless animal would make anyone angry, but the response shows how many caring people there are out there. Diligent work by our officers, detectives and Kitsap Humane Society Animal Control led to this case being solved, and we deeply appreciate the concern and assistance of the public," said Bremerton Police Chief Steve Strachan.

"Kitsap County is a community of animal lovers, and the quick justice brought in this case shows that our community will not stand for animal cruelty," said Natalie Smith, Director of Animal Control and Animal Welfare at Kitsap Humane Society. "Our organization works diligently to protect and care for the animals in our area, and will stay involved in the case, advocating for justice for this poor cat, as the case moves through court process."

#### **Natalie Smith**

**Kitsap Humane Society | Director of Animal Welfare | Director of Animal Control**

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