



RONALD K. ELKINS

COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY
WISE COUNTY/CITY OF NORTON



Chief Deputy
Commonwealth's Attorney
Adrian J. Collins

Deputy Commonwealth's Attorneys
M. Suzanne Kerney-Quillen Michael H. Abbott
Thomas W. Baker Kenneth F. Lammers, Jr.
Sarah H. Wynn

Victim/Witness Director
Vicky Wiandt
(276) 328-4421

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JURY SENTENCES COEBURN MAN TO SIX MONTHS IN JAIL FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY

Wise: On November 12, 2008, a Wise County, Virginia, jury convicted James Timothy Renfro, of Coeburn, of animal cruelty.

The one day trial was prosecuted by Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Suzanne Kerney-Quillen. After deliberating for approximately thirty minutes, the jury sentenced Renfro, 46, to six months in jail and a \$500 fine.

The case stemmed from an investigation by Wise County Animal Control officers concerning Renfro's care of a horse he owned. Specifically, officers alleged that Renfro failed to provide necessary food for the horse, resulting in significant weight loss and overall deterioration of its health.