



# **HAWTHORNE**

# **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Issued 02/25/10

Suitable For Public Dissemination

*Female arrested for intentionally throwing her boyfriend's puppy dog into the street, killing the dog.*

On Wednesday, February 24, at about 1:00 PM, Hawthorne officers were patrolling the area of 130<sup>th</sup> Street and Prairie when they witnessed a female pull a pit bull puppy by the chain attached to it's collar, out of a building, and throw the puppy into oncoming traffic traveling in the southbound lanes of Prairie Avenue. The puppy was struck by a vehicle and killed.

The officers attempted to place the female under arrest. However, the female resisted the officer's attempts to arrest her, and a physical struggle ensued in an adjacent parking lot. At this point, a male adult attempted to intervene on behalf of the female, making efforts to prevent the officers from placing her under arrest. The two police officers found themselves fighting both the male and female subjects, neither of whom had been handcuffed. Pepper spray was used on both subjects, however they each continued to resist.

Upon the arrival of additional officers, both the male and female subjects were subdued and placed under arrest. Two officers sustained minor injuries in the struggle, neither of which required hospitalization. The female also sustained a minor injury, not requiring hospitalization. The male was not injured.

The initial investigation indicates that the puppy belonged to the male suspect. During an argument between the male and female (boyfriend / girlfriend), the female grabbed the puppy and threw it into traffic.

Arrested for suspicion of animal cruelty and assaulting a peace officer:

Danielle Graham, a 21-year-old resident of Los Angeles

Arrested for suspicion of assaulting a peace officer:

Hakeem Funtua, a 24-year-old resident of Inglewood

The case is currently under investigation by Hawthorne police detectives.