



636 Violet Avenue  
Hyde Park, NY 12538  
845-452-SPCA  
www.dcsPCA.org

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Contact: Joyce Garrity  
Executive Director, Dutchess County SPCA  
(845) 454-5345 Ext. 107  
www.dcsPCA.org

## **Woman arraigned for starving her puppy**

**HYDE PARK, NY** – Mellissa Petrillo of East Fishkill, NY will be arraigned in East Fishkill Court on February 3, 2010 for one count of section 353 of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law, a class A misdemeanor. Ms. Petrillo was charged after her German Shepherd puppy, Gordito, was removed from her apartment emaciated and covered in feces.

Humane Law Enforcement Officer Jami Landry described the puppy as a 17-week old female with black and tan coloring. "The owner did not take Gordito in for her free veterinarian check even though the dog was suffering," noted Officer Landry. Gordito's owner was provided a free medical checkup when she purchased the dog from a breeder. Gordito is recovering and has since been adopted from East Fishkill Animal Control.

The Dutchess County SPCA, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, is the lead agency for animal rescue and adoption in Dutchess County. The DCSPCA is a no-kill shelter with a 139-year history of concern, caring and providing shelter for unwanted, abused, abandoned and neglected animals. Central to the mission of the DCSPCA is the securing of caring, responsible, permanent homes for the adoptable animals in its care.

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