

CAMARDI, Nicolino Ivano



Alias(es), if any: None known

Age at time of offence: 18

Name(s) of co-accused: None

Name(s) of victim(s): Shadow and One Tooth

Species and breed of victim(s):

- Dog (Shadow); Husky
- Cat (One Tooth); Domestic Short Hair (9 months old)

Province(s) of offence(s): Alberta

Town/City of offence(s): Calgary

Date(s) of offence(s):

January 9, 2014 (date Shadow's body was found; One Tooth's body was found subsequently)

Nature of offence:

- beaten (kicked and punched)
- asphyxiated
- strangled
- abandoned
- starved
- neglected (lack of adequate food, water, shelter, exercise, care)

Charges:

2 COUNTS - Wilfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering, or injury to an animal; Criminal Code of Canada, Section 445.1(1)(a)

Date(s) of sentence(s): March 27, 2015

Sentence details:

- **LIFETIME BAN ON OWNING ANIMALS (Canada-wide)**
- 22 months in jail (less 16 months already served, 6 months left)
- Three years of probation

Other charges convicted of (this information is important for tracking patterns of behaviour as well as “the link” between animal cruelty and other crimes, including crimes of violence):

- Camardi pleaded guilty to breaching conditions of probation by being in the company of animals on February 22, 2016, and was sentenced to 2.5 months in jail (less time served for a remainder of 19 days)
- Charges unknown, but a protection order was put in place for Camardi's girlfriend and he faced 4 charges, including unlawful confinement, from incidents which occurred on March 9, 2014 (<http://www.calgaryherald.com/alleged+animal+abuser+spoke+harming+animals+killing+people+court+documents/9843598/story.html>)

Name of Judge: Justice George Gaschler

Additional notes:

In an agreed statement of facts, Camardi said he would tie up a Siberian husky named Shadow with the leash tethered so high that the dog couldn't lie down. He would then punch the dog, shove feces in its nose, and urinate on its head. A few days before the dog died, Camardi taped his mouth shut with medical tape and later dumped the dog in a nearby alley. The dog had tape around its muzzle and the cat had green painter's tape covering most of its face. A veterinary exam determined the dog had suffered chronic malnourishment before it died. The cat had been strangled and had injuries to its head, tail and hind limbs. Camardi admitted to kicking the cat in the face as well as putting her in a bag, throwing it in the air, and letting it hit the floor. The cat suffered numerous traumatic injuries to her head, tail, and legs. Camardi later strangled One Tooth with a string and then dumped her body in an alley. **Both animals showed signs of serious and prolonged physical abuse.**

Links to news articles:

- [Muzzled cat, dog found dead in Calgary alley were obtained from Kijiji](#)
- [Man admits to torture and killing of dog and cat](#)
- [Calgary man who tortured, killed dog and cat sentenced to 22 months](#)
- [Nicolino Camardi pleads guilty to being in company of animals](#)

Link to written court decision (this information may often be found by searching the database at <https://www.canlii.org/en/>):

- [R. v. Camardi, 2014 ABPC 298](#)
- [R. v. Camardi, 2015 ABPC 65](#)

See photos and PDFs of news articles on following pages

CAMARDI, Nicolino Ivano



Shadow the Husky; photo Calgary Humane Society



One Tooth the kitten; photo Calgary Humane Society



MENU ▾**Calgary**

Muzzled cat, dog found dead in Calgary alley were obtained from Kijiji

Arrest made after abused animals discovered in southeast alley in January

CBC News

May 05, 2014



A Siberian husky and a six-month old kitten were found dead in January in a Calgary alley in the city's southeast. A 19-year-old man has now been charged. (CBC)

A 19-year-old man is facing animal abuse charges in connection with incidents where a dog and cat were found dead in a Calgary alley with their mouths taped shut in January.

Both animals were found in the alley in the 200 block of 99th Avenue S.E. Officials say the animals were obtained through [Kijiji](#) online classifieds a few months before their death.

ADVERTISEMENT



- [Husky, kitten found dead, muzzled in Calgary alley](#)
- [Kijiji fee aimed at weeding out unscrupulous pet brokers](#)



Nicolino Ivano Camardi has been charged with two counts of wilfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal. (Facebook)

A necropsy determined the Siberian husky had died of starvation, while the cat had been strangled after suffering "[multiple traumatic injuries](#)" to its head, tail and limbs.

[Police searched a home](#) in the 9900 block of Bonaventure Drive in January. A cat has since been removed from that same home.

After a lengthy investigation by the [Calgary Humane Society's](#) protection and investigations department, Nicolino Ivano Camardi was charged with two counts of wilfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal.

News reports of the animals' deaths prompted calls for tougher penalties for animal abusers. In Canada, the maximum penalty for animal cruelty charges is five years in prison. [An online petition](#) has also been started to bring awareness to the issue.

- [**Albertans rally in favour of stricter animal abuse laws**](#)

A local vet raised thousands of dollars for a [reward leading to an arrest](#) in the case.

"The public outcry in this case was warranted," said Brad Nichols, manager of cruelty investigations.

"As was the resources that we sank into it. So — yes — it did take four months, but we were thorough and we were happy with the package we put together. I think we have a solid case for conviction."

'This was methodical'

Camardi made his first court appearance Monday morning.

"On the face of it, it appears to be intentional cruelty and not the average abuse-type case where someone gets really mad at an animal for house soiling or something and loses their temper temporarily," said Nichols. "This was methodical, it was chronic and ended in the animals' deaths."

Camardi is also expected to appear in court next week for other charges against him, which include threats to cause death or bodily harm, unlawful confinement and breach of probation in connection with a separate incident in March.

The case follows the announcement of a few other high-profile Kijiji cases in Calgary.

A Calgary woman was [recently fined \\$7,000 for exploiting animals](#) online and [more than 50 neglected exotic animals](#) were seized from a basement suite in Bowness after being obtained for free on Kijiji.

"It's not necessarily Kijiji that's the bad guy in this," said Nichols. "It's just a vehicle online. People need to be very wary on both buying and selling online."

The humane society says the cases highlight why people should never advertise a pet as free to a good home.

WARNING: The photos below may be disturbing for some. Do not click through unless you want to view images of the animals.



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Nicolino Camardi admits torturing and killing dog and cat

By Nancy Hixt and Phil Heidenreich Global News

WARNING – This story contains content that may be disturbing to some viewers

CALGARY- The Calgary man accused in a shocking pair of animal abuse incidents has pleaded guilty to two animal cruelty charges for torturing and killing a dog and cat.

Related

- **Nicolino Camardi Denied Bail**
- **Charges laid after husky, cat found dead and muzzled in Willow Park**

In January, the bodies of both a dog and a cat were discovered in southeast alleyways in separate incidents, sparking a massive public effort to find the person responsible. The dog had starved to death and was found with its mouth taped shut while the cat was found with a string around its neck.

Graphic details were read in court Friday about what Nicolino Camardi did to the two animals. Global News has decided to report some of the details in order to shed light

on the nature of the crime as well as explain why prosecutors are seeking a lengthy prison sentence.

In an agreed statement of facts, Camardi said he would tie up a Siberian husky named Shadow with the leash tethered so high that the dog couldn't lie down. He would then punch the dog, shove feces in its nose, and urinate on its head. A few days before the dog died, Camardi taped his mouth shut with medical tape and later dumped the dog in a nearby alley.

Camardi and his girlfriend bought the dog as well as a cat named One Tooth online and brought them home to live with the couple and his mother. According to Camardi, the couple were both addicted to crack cocaine and didn't spend money on dog food. Court heard Camardi's girlfriend would occasionally give the dog fruits and vegetables or canned beans but the dog was slowly starving.

The case has been followed closely by animal rights advocates, including the DAISY Foundation , an animal advocacy group lobbying for tougher criminal sentences for animal abusers.

"Hearing the details of how that dog and that cat suffered, I don't think there was a dry eye in any of us," said Heather Anderson. "Me, who you would think by now would be immune to this, I can't believe what he did."

The cat suffered similar abuse at the hands of the 19-year-

old. Camardi admitted to kicking the cat in the face as well as putting her in a bag, throwing it in the air, and letting it hit the floor. The cat suffered numerous traumatic injuries to her head, tail, and legs. Camardi later strangled One Tooth with a string and then dumped her body in an alley.

"I believe there is a risk to the public," said Anderson. "This guy needs to have the keys thrown away cause he's a sick person."

Alberta Justice is seeking a penitentiary sentence and wants a psychiatric assessment done.

The defence argues Camardi has already served seven months in jail and should be released.

Camardi's next court appearance is scheduled for Thursday.



Nicolino Ivano Camardi

Global News

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Calgary man who tortured, killed dog and cat sentenced to 22 months

Animal advocates say the jail sentence handed down Friday for a Calgary man who neglected, tortured and killed a cat and dog last year was not tough enough even though it's the longest ever meted out in Alberta for animal cruelty.

DARYL SLADE, CALGARY HERALD Updated: March 27, 2015

Animal advocates say the jail sentence handed down Friday for a Calgary man who neglected, tortured and killed a cat and dog last year was not tough

enough even though it's the longest ever meted out in Alberta for animal cruelty.

Nicolino Camardi, 19, received a sentence of 22 months in jail and three years of probation from provincial court Judge George Gaschler for two counts of animal cruelty for abusing the animals, which he had obtained from ads placed on Kijiji.

Crown prosecutor Gord Haight had sought a two-and-a-half to three year jail sentence.

"I would have like to see something on the higher end," Brad Nichols, manager of cruelty investigations for Calgary Humane Society, said outside court.

"It is a person's worst nightmare when they put an animal on Kijiji and they find out what happened ... that it came back to haunt them," said Nichols.

Nichols said he was pleased with the lifetime ban barring Camardi from ever owning animals again, calling it the "highlight" of the sentence.



Brad Nichols, manager of cruelty investigations with Calgary Humane Society, outside the Calgary Courts Centre *DARYL SLADE / CALGARY HERALD*

Gaschler said although his sentence did not exceed the federal record jail sentence of two years for animal cruelty, it does not lessen the gravity of Camardi's offences.

"The prolonged abuse, neglect and wilful infliction of suffering causing the death of both animals calls for a custodial sentence at the high end of the range of sentence," Gaschler said.

The judge also ordered further psychiatric treatment for Camardi but gave him credit for 16 months already served in custody, leaving him with six months of jail time remaining in his sentence.

Defence lawyer Jack Kelly had argued for a sentence of 18 months, less time served.

Haight said while it was not the penalty he was seeking, it's still the most anyone has ever received in this province for animal cruelty, to his knowledge.

"I think the public should realize this sentence was over 3-and-a-half times greater than the previous allowable maximum (six months) in 2008," Haight said. "To that extent it seems to have taken into account Parliament's desire to revise the maximum period in the Criminal Code more in line with societal values.

"The facts demanded it. This is certainly the most serious case of animal cruelty that I've ever prosecuted before."

Haight said it was a significant breach of trust, since people gave up the animals believing they'd get a good home. He also noted the lifetime ban on possessing animals is a national one and there is no provision in the Criminal Code to revisit the ruling. Still, he said he would review Friday's decision and determine whether he will consider an appeal.

Heather Anderson, founder of Delegates Against Inhumane Suffering Y (DAISY), said outside court she was disappointed in the sentence.

"I'm not very happy," she said outside court. "We really hoped we were going to have something really good this time. "The amount of time given doesn't give enough time to deal with his drug abuse and everything."

Camardi apologized to the court and the public earlier this week for his actions.

Nicolino Camardi pleads guilty to being in company of animals



Animal torturer found with neighbours' pets in home after serving sentence for killing dog, cat

Meghan Grant · CBC News · Posted: Feb 22, 2016 1:22 PM MT | Last Updated: February 22, 2016



After pleading guilty to breaching his probation conditions, Nicolino Camardi was sentenced to two-and-a-half months in jail. (Facebook)

A man who tortured a dog and kitten, and then left them to die, admitted to breaching his probation conditions by having animals in his home.

Nicolino Camardi was charged with the breaches in January after members of Calgary police's high-risk offender program found two cats and a dog when checking in on him.

- **MORE COURT NEWS** | [Star witness at Nick Chan murder trial a 'serial murderer,' says defence lawyer](#)
- **MORE COURT NEWS** | [Calgary man admits to fatally stabbing wife in surprise guilty plea](#)

Prosecutor Gord Haight told the judge on Monday that the house of Camardi's neighbours was being sprayed for bed bugs, and they needed a place for their animals until it was safe to go back home.

"Obviously that was a very bad mistake, a bad use of judgment," said Camardi's lawyer Rebecca Snukal. "He's prepared to accept any punishment you impose."

Judge Frank Maloney handed down a two-and-a-half month sentence. After taking into account the time he's already served, Camardi has 19 days left on his sentence.

"It's your obligation to advise others that you can not be with animals," said Maloney.

Camardi — who was 18 years old at the time of his arrest — pleaded guilty to two charges of animal cruelty in 2014 after a two-year-old husky and kitten were found dead in a southeast alley with their mouths taped shut.

A necropsy found the husky died of starvation, while the nine-month-old kitten had been strangled and suffered other injuries to its body.

Camardi abused the animals over a period of two to three months. He received a 22-month sentence — the longest ever handed down in Alberta for animal cruelty.





Michelle Pelletier and Vern McCarty say they are racked with guilt after they brought their pets to Nicolino Camardi's home while their house was being fumigated. (Meghan Grant/CBC)

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Alleged animal abuser spoke of harming animals, killing people: court documents

ERIKA STARK, CALGARY HERALD 05.16.2014 |



Nicolino Ivano Camardi is shown in a photo released by the Calgary Humane Society. Charges related to animal abuse have been laid against a 19-year-old man after a dog and a cat were found dead in a Calgary alley with their muzzles bound shut. *CALGARY HERALD / CALGARY HERALD*

The young Calgary man accused of taping shut the muzzles of a cat and a dog and leaving them to die in an alley earlier this year had talked to his girlfriend about harming animals and people, according to court documents.

On March 9, the girlfriend of 19-year-old Nicolino Camardi applied for an emergency

protection order against her boyfriend after he allegedly threatened her with violence when she tried to leave their home, the documents state.

Camardi's girlfriend told Const. Aaron Squirrell that Camardi had spoken to her about hurting animals and killing people, according to a court transcript of the emergency protection order hearing.

"She mentioned that he has also spoken to her about murder and killing humans," Squirrell testified on March 10.

Camardi has a history of crack cocaine use and "mental illness with psychosis," Squirrell told justice of the peace Lily MacKay.

He testified Camardi told police that he hears voices telling him to kill his girlfriend.

The girlfriend also told Squirrell that Camardi "speaks to people that aren't there, while she is in his presence."

Last week, provincial court Judge Allan Fradsham ordered a psychiatric check for Camardi, who faces two counts of wilfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal after a Siberian husky and a domestic short haired cat were found dead in a southeast alley in January.

Their muzzles had been taped shut and the dog had died from starvation. The cat had been strangled with a cord or rope and suffered other injuries.

Camardi faces charges of two counts of uttering threats, one count of unlawful confinement and one count of breach of probation in relation to the March 9 incident involving his girlfriend.