



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2015

### City Manager Releases Statement on Dog Attack

**Wheeling, WV** – “On March 8, 2015, an unfortunate and tragic event occurred in which two men lost their lives. Mr. David Wallace, Jr. appears to have suffered a medical emergency, while Mr. Roy Arbraa-Higgenbotham, Jr. came to his aid. Unfortunately, the aid he was giving to Mr. Wallace was believed to be misconstrued by Mr. Wallace’s dog as an attack on Mr. Wallace. As a result, Mr. Wallace’s dog attacked Mr. Arbraa-Higgenbotham, and Mr. Arbraa-Higgenbotham died from the injuries inflicted upon him by Mr. Wallace’s dog.”

“The dog was immediately detained by Ohio County Animal Control and has been in their custody since the incident. This event and the dog’s actions fall within the City’s Vicious Dog Ordinance. I have carefully reviewed this incident on all levels possible. Based upon that review, I have authorized the release of the dog to the South Hills Pet Rescue and Rehabilitation Resort in Pennsylvania. This is a licensed rehabilitation and placement organization with a licensed behavioral trainer that will make every effort to retrain and rehabilitate the dog. I do not believe this organization will put any human beings or other animals at risk. This organization approached the City regarding taking this dog. It is important to note that this organization assumes all liability and responsibility for the dog, and the dog will not be permitted back in the State of West Virginia for any reason.”

Robert Herron  
City Manager

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