

She pleaded GUILTY to killing him. Now, the search for justice hits a critical wait.

Oakleaf, the Great Dane later known as "Miracle," was starved, poisoned with chocolate, and dumped on a Jacksonville street to die. Today, the woman responsible, Dawn Waynette Nicole Lipford, is officially GUILTY of aggravated animal cruelty. This is no longer a trial of facts; it is a confession of intentional cruelty.

MAJOR UPDATE: The sentencing hearing has been officially rescheduled for September 8, 2026.

This delay is our window. While Lipford has admitted to the unthinkable, our "Animal Warriors" now have more time to ensure her sentence reflects the gravity of Oak's suffering. We are using every day between now and September 8 to let decision-makers know that we expect the maximum five-year penalty.

Please share this update to keep Oak's name visible. We will not stop until the final word is spoken in that courtroom.

Legal Disclosure: All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. This report is provided under fair use principles for public awareness and advocacy.

Source: Office of the State Attorney, Fourth Judicial Circuit; Duval County Court Records

Case Receipts:

Defendant: Dawn Waynette Nicole Lipford

Status: GUILTY (Aggravated Animal Cruelty)

Case No: 16-2025-CF-010475

New Sentencing Date: September 8, 2026

OAKLEAF / MIRACLE CASE: STATE ATTORNEY CONTACT PACKAGE

CASE: State of Florida v. Dawn Waynette Nicole Lipford

CASE NO.: 16-2025-CF-010475

CHARGE / CASE STATUS: Lipford pleaded guilty in open court on July 15th, 2026, to aggravated animal cruelty in the 2025 death of Oakleaf, the Great Dane later called Miracle.

ORIGINAL SENTENCING SETTING: August 17th, 2026, before Judge Tatiana Salvador.

REPORTED RESET: September 8th, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. This date was reported in a public post-hearing update and should be confirmed with the State Attorney's Office or Clerk before publication or attendance.

--- STATE ATTORNEY CONTACT INFORMATION ---

State Attorney Melissa W. Nelson

Office of the State Attorney, Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida

Duval County Office, Ed Austin Building

311 West Monroe Street

Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Phone: (904) 255-2500

Email: SAO4th@coj.net

Website: <https://sao4th.com/offices/duval-county/>

Case prosecutor identified by the State Attorney's Office: Assistant State Attorney Cyrus Zomorodian

IMPORTANT: The State Attorney's Office asks members of the public to use the phone number and general email above for general correspondence. Do not use its attorney e-service addresses for public messages. The office notes that emails sent to it may be public records.

--- COPY AND PASTE EMAIL ---

Subject: Oakleaf / Miracle Sentencing, Case No. 16-2025-CF-010475

Dear State Attorney Nelson and Assistant State Attorney Zomorodian,

My name is [YOUR NAME], and I am writing from [YOUR CITY, STATE] regarding the sentencing of Dawn Waynette Nicole Lipford in Case No. 16-2025-CF-010475.

I am following this case because of Oakleaf, the Great Dane later called Miracle. According to the Office of the State Attorney, Oak was found severely emaciated and suffering in Jacksonville in November 2025. The official account states that his condition was irreversible and that he ultimately had to be euthanized.

I understand that Lipford pleaded guilty to aggravated animal cruelty on July 15th, 2026. I respectfully ask that Oak's suffering, the impact of his loss, and the seriousness of animal cruelty be fully presented to the court at sentencing. I also ask that the State Attorney's Office seek a sentence that reflects the gravity of the offense, the need for accountability, and the need to protect vulnerable animals.

I understand that sentencing is ultimately the court's decision. Please include my concerns in the appropriate case materials or share them with the prosecution team handling Oak's case, if permitted.

Thank you for your work on this case and for taking the time to consider the community's concern for Oak.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR CITY, STATE]

[YOUR EMAIL]

[YOUR PHONE NUMBER, OPTIONAL]

--- COPY AND PASTE CALL SCRIPT ---

Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME], and I am calling from [YOUR CITY, STATE]. I would like to leave a respectful message for the State Attorney's Office about the Oakleaf, also known as Miracle, animal-cruelty case.

The case number is 16-2025-CF-010475, involving Dawn Waynette Nicole Lipford. I understand that she pleaded guilty to aggravated animal cruelty on July 15th, 2026.

I am calling because Oak was a Great Dane who suffered terribly and ultimately had to be euthanized. I respectfully ask the State Attorney's Office to make sure the full impact of Oak's suffering and the community's concerns are presented at sentencing. I hope the Office will seek a sentence that reflects the seriousness of what Oak endured and the importance of protecting animals from cruelty.

I also understand that sentencing may now be set for September 8th at 9:00 a.m. Could you please confirm the current sentencing date, time, and courtroom, or tell me where I can confirm it through the Clerk's Office?

Thank you for taking my message. My name is [YOUR NAME], and my contact information is [YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL].

--- SHORT VERSION FOR EMAIL OR VOICEMAIL ---

I am writing about Oakleaf, also known as Miracle, in Case No. 16-2025-CF-010475. I respectfully ask the State Attorney's Office to ensure that Oak's suffering and the seriousness of aggravated animal cruelty are fully presented at sentencing. Please seek a sentence that reflects the gravity of the offense and protects vulnerable animals. Please also confirm the current sentencing date and courtroom. Thank you.

SOURCES: Office of the State Attorney, Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida, <https://sao4th.com/news/2026/lipford-pleads-guilty-to-aggravated-animal-cruelty-in-death-of-dog/>; Duval County Office of the State Attorney, <https://sao4th.com/offices/duval-county/>

