

More sports, law, and military news...

Trusted employee charged in Franklin County cattle theft following investigation by TN. Department of Agricultural Crime Unit and Franklin Sheriff’s Office

NASHVILLE — Two Tennessee men are behind bars following a joint investigation by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Crime Unit (ACU) and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office into the theft of more than \$114,000 worth of cattle.

A Franklin County Grand Jury indicted Carl Dwayne Lynn of Franklin County and Nicholas Carl King of Grundy County on charges of theft of property valued between \$60,000 and \$250,000 and criminal conspiracy. The investigation found that

94 cattle were sold over a period spanning from March 2022 through November 2025 without the owner's permission.

According to the victim, Lynn had worked for his family for more than 20 years and was entrusted with managing portions of the cattle operation.

The case began after a Franklin County cattle producer reported discrepancies in livestock records and sales. Investigators determined cattle belonging to the victim had been sold using another individual's name through a regional livestock stockyard.

ACU Lead Special Agent Mike Whaley gathered sales records and reviewed surveillance footage tied to livestock transactions and cattle transport, leading to indictments and arrests.

"This case demonstrates the importance of coordinated effort between local law enforcement and ACU," ACU Special Agent in Charge Greg Whitehead said. "Agricultural crimes can have a devastating financial impact on farm families and rural communities. We appreciate the diligent work of investigators and their commitment to holding

those responsible accountable."

Franklin County Sheriff Tim Fuller said the investigation highlights the value of collaboration in complex agricultural theft cases.

"I appreciate the strong working relationship between the Tennessee Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Crime Unit and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office," Fuller said. "I am proud of the work both agencies put into this case. Special Agent Mike Whaley was instrumental in this investigation, and the entire team

of agents is always willing to assist local law enforcement agencies."

Both defendants were taken into custody and remain incarcerated at the Franklin County Jail pending court proceedings.

To contact ACU call 844-AG-CRIME (844-242-7463) or email Agriculture.Crime@tn.gov.

ACU investigated 78 cases in May 2026.

ACU law enforcement officers investigate and enforce state laws related to the agricultural community.

DTC Communications delivers one of the largest public wi-fi deployment in Tennessee at the Wilson County-Tennessee State Fair and James E. Ward Agriculture Center

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The Environment and Conservation

Ducks Unlimited, Inc. completes its historic \$4.06 billion campaign from sports page 1

vested in landscape-level conservation across North America to safeguard breeding grounds, migration corridors, and wintering habitats that waterfowl and wildlife depend on.

"What our volunteers have accomplished is nothing short of remarkable. In a time when our nation's wetlands and grasslands face enormous pressure, our donors and supporters stepped forward with generosity and conviction," says DU CEO Adam Putnam. "Because of them, millions of acres will continue to filter our water, protect our communities, and provide habitats for hundreds of species, including the waterfowl that are central to our hunting traditions and heritage."

The campaign's impact spans North America, with investments focused on five core conservation priorities that are vital to the future of our wetlands, waterfowl, communities, and ecosystems:

- Breeding Landscapes Conservation: Campaign funds have

DUCKS UNLIMITED

protected and restored critical wetlands and associated habitats in the Prairie Pothole Region, Great Lakes, and Boreal Forest, places where the majority of the continent's waterfowl are raised. These investments ensure future generations of hunters and wildlife enthusiasts will continue to experience the continent's great waterfowl migrations.

- Migration and Wintering Landscapes Conservation: Investments in the Gulf Coast, Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Central Valley of California, and Atlantic Coast have strengthened the migratory pathways that millions of birds travel each year. These vital landscapes now stand better protected, ensuring waterfowl complete their journeys in

prime condition.

- Conservation Research and Education: Campaign investments have expanded DU's scientific capacity and accelerated the development of cutting-edge research tools that guide habitat conservation on a continental scale. This priority has also fueled programs to inspire, educate, and train the next generation of conservation professionals.
- Wetlands Forever: Although wetlands cover only six percent of the Earth's surface, they support 40 percent of all plant and animal species. This priority has funded volunteer programs and mission-focused projects in areas of greatest need, mobilizing communities to act as stewards

of these irreplaceable ecosystems.

- Conservation Legacy: Generous gifts to DU's endowment through this campaign have secured a financial foundation that will sustain conservation work for decades to come; a true living legacy for wetlands, waterfowl, and the communities that depend on them.

From grassroots fundraising banquets in small towns to major philanthropic gifts from conservation-minded individuals and organizations, every contribution played an essential role in the campaign's unprecedented success. During the campaign period, DU has surpassed 20 million acres conserved since 1937, and has recorded more than one million acres of conservation for three straight years.

"This is one of the single greatest fundraising achievements in the history of landscape conservation," said Ducks Unlimited President Bob Spoerl. "To set a goal

that was already the most ambitious our organization had ever attempted, and then blow past our goal, speaks volumes to the passion and commitment of our supporters who recognize the urgency to protect these vital landscapes."

DU's conserved acres also represent a remarkable portfolio of ecosystem services, delivering quantifiable benefits that extend far past the landscapes that we protect. Among the most notable, DU and Ducks Unlimited Canada have helped conserve over 26 trillion gallons of water across landscapes since 1937. These landmark milestones stand as a testament to the dedication of DU's volunteers, donors, partners, and supporters who made this vision a reality.

As DU closes this landmark chapter, "Conservation For A Continent. Our Wetlands. Our Legacy." demonstrates that the conservation community's capacity to deliver results for wetlands

and waterfowl knows no limits. The dollars raised and acres conserved are not just numbers; they are supporting living landscapes that will sustain waterfowl and wildlife, provide clean water and flood protection for communities, and offer outdoor experiences for hunters and nature enthusiasts for generations to come.

About Ducks Unlimited

Ducks Unlimited Inc. is the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving North America's continually disappearing wetlands, grasslands, and other waterfowl habitats. Established in 1937, Ducks Unlimited has restored or protected more than 20 million acres thanks to contributions from more than a million supporters across the continent. Guided by science, DU's projects benefit waterfowl, wildlife, and people in all 50 states. Learn more at www.ducks.org.

Ranger Wildlife Removal & Prevention issues Mid-South warning of spike in snake-related home calls ... from sports page 1

the second problem. The first problem is the rodent activity drawing them in."

The company also warns that rodent infestations can create serious health concerns beyond structural damage and snake attraction. One of the primary risks is contamination associated with hantavirus exposure, which can occur through airborne particles from rodent urine, droppings, and nesting materials.

"The biggest misconception is that snakes randomly appear inside homes," said Morgan. "In most cases, the house is already supporting an active food source. Prevention is far less expensive and far less dangerous than reacting after wildlife enters the structure."

Wildlife specialists say many homes unknowingly contain entry points large enough for both rodents and snakes to access interior spaces. Common vulnerabilities include:

- Unsealed roof returns and attic gaps
- Garage door corner openings
- Crawlspace penetrations
- HVAC and plumbing entry points
- Damaged soffits and vents
- Foundation gaps as small as 1/4 inch



Do you want this as a rent-free tenant in your home? (Photo/Courtesy: Ranger Wildlife Removal and Prevention)

Ranger Wildlife Removal & Prevention recommends homeowners take preventative action now before peak summer wildlife activity escalates further. Preventative measures include professional exclusion work, sealing entry points, reducing rodent attractants, and routine property inspections.

"The biggest misconception is that snakes randomly appear in-

side homes," said Morgan. "In most cases, the house is already supporting an active food source. Prevention is far less expensive and far less dangerous than reacting after wildlife enters the structure."

The company serves homeowners throughout the Mid-South region and says it expects snake-related call volume to continue climbing throughout the summer months.

Federal, state, and local agencies conclude Operation Clean House: Memphis... from sports-Military 2

inal activity adversely affecting HUD-supported communities.

"Demonstrating exceptional work by the Memphis Safe Task Force, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Inspector General, and other law enforcement partners, Operation Clean House: Memphis led to the successful apprehension of dangerous fugitives wanted on felony warrants who were residing in HUD-subsidized housing," said U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Development Acting Inspector General Brian D. Harrison. "Defeating fraud in housing remains a top priority for HUD OIG. HUD housing is America's housing serving millions of deserving Americans, and we are unwavering in our commitment to ensuring accountability throughout HUD's programs."

"The success of this unique operation is a direct result of outstanding interagency cooperation," stated Tyreece Miller, United States Marshal for

the Western District of Tennessee. "Working with HUD OIG, we were able to serve arrest warrants and remove dangerous individuals from our community safely and effectively. When agencies work together with a common mission, our communities are safer."

If you see crime, waste, fraud or abuse, report it to the HUD OIG Hotline by calling 1-800-347-3735 or online at <https://www.hudoig.gov/hotline>

FedEx St. Jude Championship will Offer Special Tickets to Military Personnel. *Watch for Details.*

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's F.Y.H. = For Your Health Special Edition

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