



## *Cherokee County Marshal's Office*

A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

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### **For Immediate Release**

### **Horse Death**

On Friday 22 September a horse (Toby, an eight-year-old gelding Irish Sport Show Horse) was found deceased in a pasture at a stable along Union Hill Road in Cherokee County. The wound to the horse's head resembled a gunshot wound thus leading investigators to believe initially the horse had been shot and killed.

However, after investigation it was revealed that the horse suffered a depressed skull fracture from a blunt object. A thorough investigation that included a complete scene investigation, interviews, and a necropsy of the deceased horse revealed the following.

Investigation reveals that most likely the horse had his head at the ground grazing and was kicked in the head by another shod horse causing the death of the Toby.

The cause of death of the horse is determined to have resulted from blunt force trauma to the head. Manner of death is accidental.

The owners of Toby and The Cherokee Marshal's Office would like to express our gratitude to University of Georgia Veterinary Division and the members of the community that provided and extended their support during the investigation.



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