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Vick Indicted by State Grand Jury

Prosecutors have announced that a Virginia grand jury has indicted Michael Vick on state dogfighting charges. Vick is charged with one count of unlawfully torturing and killing dogs and one count of promoting dogfights.

These charges come in the wake of a federal indictment and Vick's plea agreement with federal prosecutors, agreeing to plead guilty to federal conspiracy charges involving illegal dogfighting. This is the latest in a long line of animal abuse cases involving NFL players. While the speed and efficiency with which prosecutors handled this case is a victory for animals and a sign that the crime of dogfighting is being treated with the gravity that it deserves, the NFL needs to follow suit.

PETA is again calling on the NFL to add cruelty to animals—in all its forms—to its personal conduct policy. This case has clearly shown

that NFL fans are just as outraged by cruelty to animals as they are by any of the other antisocial behaviors outlined in the policy.

Furthermore, an informant from inside the dogfighting world who spoke on ESPN's Outside the Lines told reporters about "a whole roster of names of professional athletes that we know are involved in dogfighting.

... I bet not even 10 percent have

See Also

Click here to watch boxing champ Lamon Brewster's PSA Against Dogfighting.

Read Vick's indictment.

Read All

come to light." Given these disturbing allegations and the numerous recent cases of animal abuse involving NFL players, the NFL needs to act vigorously and with authority to stamp this out immediately. Please use the form below to ask the NFL to take cases of animal abuse seriously in the future by updating its personal conduct policy.

Personalized letters always work best. Feel free to use the following text, but your message will carry more weight if you write your own customized message.

Take Action on This Issue

Subject:

Take a Stand Against Animal Abuse

Dear [Decision Maker],

(Edit Letter Below)

In light of Michael Vick's recent plea bargain, agreeing to plead guilty to federal conspiracy charges involving illegal dogfighting, and given the numerous incidents of alleged animal abuse cases involving NFL players in recent years, please update the NFL's personal conduct policy to include a statement that animal abuse will not be tolerated by the NFL.

Please show the millions of football fans and compassionate people who have been following this case that the NFL is not soft on animal abuse, and demonstrate to all the athletes under your charge that they will not be allowed to get away with the sort of cruelty that Michael Vick has admitted to.

Send this message to:

Mr. Roger Goodell

First Name: *

Last Name: *

* Required Field

Sincerely,

[Your name]

By signing up here and giving us your details, we're taking that as acknowledgment that you've read and agreed to our privacy policy.

Send This Message