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**NEWS
RELEASE**

07/11/2020
El Paso, Texas

Groomer Arrested in Puppy's Death

Date: July 7, 2020

Location: 12370 Edgemere Blvd

Arrested: 31 –year old Leobardo Nava of the 1900 block of E Yandell Dr

On July 8th, El Paso Police were alerted by Animal Services of an incident at Happy Paws Dog Grooming, 12370 Edgemere Blvd, in which 16 week old Shi-Poo puppy, Luccas, died shortly after being groomed there. The EPPD Animal Cruelty Unit launched an investigation in which evidence was found to indicate Luccas was handled roughly during his grooming, grabbed forcefully by the neck and went limp as 31 –year old Leobardo Nava continued to aggressively groom him. Luccas demonstrated signs of pain and lethargy upon being picked up. He was unable to eat or drink and cried out in pain when he attempted to walk. Luccas expired a short time after returning home with his owner. An immediate examination by a veterinarian was conducted, followed by a necropsy (canine autopsy). The exams found Luccas' lungs were full of blood, indicating he died of a pulmonary edema caused by the stress of the incident. Nava was arrested yesterday and charged with one count of Cruelty to Animals. He was booked into the El Paso County Detention Facility on this, as well as, Possession of Marijuana and outstanding traffic warrants. His bonds totaled \$3,312.20.

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