

Scottsdale Woman Facing Animal Cruelty Charges for Slapping Police Horse

By: Jeremy Geigle, Attorney at Law
JacksonWhite, P.C.

If you've ever been out for drinks on the weekend with some friends in the downtown areas of the Phoenix Valley, you've likely seen the police on horses that patrol the streets outside of bars and nightclubs. Well, one woman, who may have had entirely too much to drink, got a little bit too comfortable with one animal officer named Grayhawk.

After leaving a nightclub in Scottsdale, a drunken woman, [Selma Iris Gonzalez, was arrested for slapping a police horse's butt](#). Gonzalez struck the horse so hard that she startled the animal enough to make it want to step into nearby traffic.

Officers say that Gonzalez's slap was loud enough to be heard over the already excessively noisy late night crowd.

The 25-year-old woman was arrested and is facing animal abuse charges for interfering with and harming a working service animal. Gonzalez claims she did not slap the horse, suggesting that she was simply petting it when it became startled on its own.

Consequences for Animal Cruelty in Arizona

[Animal cruelty](#) is taken very seriously in Arizona and anyone found guilty of intentionally causing any animal cruel mistreatment, neglect, or abandonment will face serious fines, penalties, and possible jail time.

An AZ animal cruelty offender can expect their actions to be categorized as a class 6 felony if charged, and will pay approximately \$150,000 dollars in fines, with up to one and a half years of hard time.

Jeremy Geigle is a criminal defense attorney and shareholder at JacksonWhite. He has been practicing over 8 years and has handled thousands of felony and misdemeanor counts. He works in both adult and juvenile court handling DUIs, aggravated felonies and sex crimes in Arizona. He works in Federal, State and local jurisdictions including Phoenix, Mesa, Gilbert, Chandler, Scottsdale, Glendale, Tempe and Peoria. Mr. Geigle is a 5-Star-Client-Rated Attorney on Avvo. To read more about what former clients are saying about hiring Mr. Geigle or to set up a free consultation, please visit www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/criminal-defense-law.

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