

Reward for Stolen Monkeys

Nicholas, Abby & Melissa

On Oct 6th, 44 year old Catherine M. Montes stole 3 Pigtailed Macaque monkeys, Nicholas, Abby and Melissa, from Monkey Island Rescue and Zoological Sanctuary. This is a non-profit exotic animal sanctuary located just outside of Lee's Summit, MO that takes in unwanted or abused animals and provides a healthy happy home with many other monkeys.

The burglary was recorded on several surveillance cameras, with one of the cameras inside the building recording over 1 ½ hours of video. The video clearly shows Ms. Montes feeding the monkeys a tranquilizer in pieces of food. When this wasn't effective enough, Ms. Montes then held Nicholas, Abby and Melissa down with a net to inject them with a controlled prescription narcotic. Within a few minutes the monkeys were unconscious. This is a controlled substance and is only to be legally administered by a licensed veterinarian. Our Law Enforcement Officials still have not charged Ms. Montes for using this controlled substance to kidnap our monkeys!



It's been over 2 months since our precious Nicholas, Abby and Melissa were taken from us, and Law Enforcement hasn't even questioned Ms. Montes, who at the very least is guilty of **Breaking & Entering**. Our monkeys are still being held by this animal kidnapper, and their whereabouts is unknown! It is amazing that the legal system is protecting this criminal when we have the whole crime on video!

The police are treating this as a property crime, and say they have exhausted their resources. Help us do something to get the monkeys back! In a year or so the law will get its day in court but this is a property crime - YOUR family pet would be looked at in this way if someone stole it. It is amazing that an animal's life is only property in our legal system. *We have talked to some police and prosecutors that do care, but say they have no way to move forward.*

Please help us raise the money to offer a REWARD! We are asking people to make a tax deductible donation to Monkey Island Rescue specifically for this. Any help with resources to get the word out to reach people that have knowledge of this crime like billboards, newspapers or any other law enforcements agents that may be able to help is greatly appreciated.

If you can help us:

Contact info@monkeyislandrescue.com or call Sgt. Epperson at the Jackson County Sheriffs Dept. (816) 524-4302