

## **Timothy Casey (Secretary to the Board)**

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**From:** Ruth Whelan <irelandforever19@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 07, 2022 2:14 PM  
**To:** Frank Aguilar (Board of Commissioners); Toni Preckwinkle (Presidents Office); Thomas Dart; CCSO.CCSPD@ccsheriff.org; info@votefortomdart.com; Pamela Cummings (Presidents Office); Brandon Johnson (Board of Commissioners); Dennis Deer (Board of Commissioners); Bill Lowry (Board of Commissioners); Stanley Moore (Board of Commissioners); Deborah Sims (Board of Commissioners); Donna Miller (Board of Commissioners); Alma Anaya (Board of Commissioners); Luis Arroyo Jr (Board of Commissioners); Peter Silvestri; District 10; John Daley (Board of Commissioners); Bridget Degnen (Board of Commissioners); Larry Suffredin; Scott Britton (Board of Commissioners); Kevin Morrison (Board of Commissioners); Sean Morrison (Board of Commissioners); CookCounty Board (Secretary to the Board)  
**Subject:** Resident Issue

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Hello,

My name is Ruth Whelan and I'm a Northbrook resident concerned about the mistreatment of a captive coyote at the River Trail Nature Center.

There have been various reports filed pertaining to this issue from people in the community—including those that work in the field of wildlife rescue.

From Nicole Milan: "It was discovered through FOIA requests (Freedom of Information Act) that Rocky, the coyote, has been prescribed the anti-anxiety medications Gabapentin and Trazodone because he has exhibited signs of anxiety and stress behavior, including paw licking, bloody claws, and stress pacing. He has also been prescribed Apoquel. He is not a happy boy in his cage in the parking lot, sniffing the rails of the cage and the tree through the bars."

I urge you to please work with your colleagues to release Rocky, the coyote, from his inhumane and miserable existence at River Trail Nature Center as soon as possible and allow him to go to the Wild Animal Sanctuary in Colorado (which has more than 10,000 acres, is run by rehabilitation and veterinary experts and will cost taxpayers \$0.)

Forcing a wild animal to live in a small barren cage is inhumane and Rocky deserves companionship.

Coyotes live in family groups and yes according to wildlife biologists, he can slowly be introduced to other coyotes - wildlife experts know how to do this successfully.

He also requires fresh water, room to roam, a way to get away from the public and not to be treated as an 'educational' exhibit. He's not getting these things right now.

All visitors are learning is how cruel River Trail Nature Center treats its 'ambassador animals.

Regards,  
Ruth Whelan