

# News Release

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## **Award for Stolen French Bulldogs Raised to \$5,000** *Pet Store Asking for Public's Help to Return Puppies Safely*

**TEMPE-** Animal Kingdom pet store inside of Arizona Mills Mall in Tempe is raising the reward for the safe return of five French Bulldogs stolen from the store earlier this month.



"We are offering a \$5,000 reward or \$1,000 each for the safe return of the missing puppies. We are growing very concerned as each day goes by for the health and safety of the puppies and we just want them back," says Linda Nofer, the marketing director for Companion Pets Incorporated - the company that owns the pet store chain.

On Jan. 10 two suspects broke into the store after hours, stuffed five puppy French Bulldogs into a trash can and dragged the can out of the store, stealing the five puppies worth a total of more than \$30,000.

"These men, caught on surveillance video, broke the hearts of the families who already purchased three of the dogs and have broken the hearts of all of us too. We just want the puppies returned safely," Nofer said.

Several people have contacted the store claiming to have seen posts on Craigslist that may contain photos of the missing puppies, but none have been substantiated. If the public sees the puppies online, in person or anywhere (even if they are no longer in the city of Tempe) they are urged to call the police or even call the store anonymously to arrange for the safe return of the puppies.

"Someone out there knows something about these puppies and we are willing to pay them a lot of money to do the right thing," said Nofer.

The puppies are between 12 and 16 weeks old and dogs that young have to be given very special care. Two of the puppies have an upper respiratory infection that requires them to take medication.

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