



NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
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Dog Dies Despite Rescue Efforts

Los Angeles: On Tuesday, July 31, 2007, at approximately 1:00 PM, concerned passer-bys witnessed a yellow Labrador Retriever left in a parked car in the 6800 block of Owensmouth Avenue in the San Fernando Valley. The dog appeared to be in distress due to heat exhaustion. One citizen called 911, while another citizen attempted to get the dog out of the car. The rear door to the car was unlocked. The concerned citizens opened the car and attempted to give the dog water.

Unfortunately, despite their rescue saving efforts the dog went into convulsions, and died. Los Angeles Police Officers from West Valley Division responded to the 911 call and conducted an investigation. The officers were able to locate the owner of the dog, Bennett Goldberg, and arrested him for 597(b) of the California Penal Code, Animal Neglect. The City of Los Angeles' Animal Cruelty Task Force was contacted and responded to the location. The Animal Cruelty Task Force is currently investigating the crime and is pursuing felony charges of Animal Neglect, which is punishable by up to three years in prison.

The Animal Cruelty Task Force would like to remind pet owners that during hot days the temperatures inside a vehicle can reach over 120 degrees, even with the windows left slightly open.

The Animal Cruelty Task Force is made up of Los Angeles Police Officers and Detectives, Animal Service Officers from the Department of Animal Services and Deputy City Attorney's from the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. They investigate human cruelty against animals.

Reports of animal cruelty can be reported to the Animal Cruelty Task Force at (213) 847-1417.

For more information or assistance call LA Animal Services at
1-888-452LA-PET1/1-888-452-7381
(TTY Hearing impaired: 877-875-8205) or visit the website at www.LAAnimalServices.com.

We create happiness by bringing pets and people together!