



NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
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Call For Help Saves 108 Animals in Distress

Los Angeles: On Tuesday, July 31, 2007, concerned friends of a West Valley resident notified the Los Angeles Police Department regarding their friend's threats to kill herself. West Valley Officers responded to the residence in the 19300 block of Welby Way in the San Fernando Valley in an effort to check on the woman's welfare. When the resident did not answer the door, the officers, fearing that someone had been harmed, entered the location. The officers were unable to locate the resident, but discovered cats, reptiles, a dog, and numerous exotic birds living in deplorable conditions.

The City of Los Angeles' Animal Cruelty Task Force was contacted and responded to the location to conduct an investigation and rescue the endangered animals. While the animals were being taken into protective custody, the resident arrived home. The officers, suspecting mental illness was a factor, requested the assistance of mental health professionals. This tactic was proven effective as the resident was detained for a 72-hour mental evaluation hold.

A total of 108 animals were taken from the house. The Animal Cruelty Task Force is handling the investigation.

Anyone interested in fostering animals please go to www.laanimalservices.com for more information.

The Animal Cruelty Task Force is comprised 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.

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!