

NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
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Boxers Rescued by LA Animal Services

Los Angeles – Today, Martin Jay Gomez of Encino, California pleaded "No Contest" to California Penal Code 597b, animal cruelty.

In September 2006 LA Animal Services responded to an animal cruelty complaint involving several dogs residing in the 5600 block of Lasaine Avenue in Encino, CA. A citizen reported the dogs were very skinny, had no food or water and were living in filthy conditions. Upon inspection, LA Animal Control Officers found seven Boxers, (4 puppies and 3 adults), in immediate need of medical care. All 7 animals were emaciated and sick, two of the puppies were suffering from fractures and one had severe head trauma.

LA Animal Services immediately took the dogs to the West Valley Animal Care Center for medical attention. After treatment, Boxer Rescue was contacted and they adopted the animals; each in need of many months of veterinary care and a lot of TLC.

Mr. Gomez was sentenced to serve 90 days in jail, 36 months probation, 30 hours Caltrans community service, and 24 hours of PC597g behavioral counseling. In addition, Mr. Gomez cannot own, posses, maintain or harbor any animals.

"Animal Services is becoming more aggressive in its mission to promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of pets in the City of Los Angeles", said department general manager Ed Boks. "This case is an example of the kind of cruelty that is no longer tolerated in our City. If you are going to abuse or neglect an animal, you can plan on going to jail!"

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.