



NEWS RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 500, Los Angeles, California 90012 / www.LAAnimalServices.com

CONTACT: Public Relations Office
213.847.1012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 25, 2007

Cock Fighting Bust in Sylmar

Los Angeles – The LA Animal Cruelty Task Force busted a cock fight in progress on Sunday. At about 11 a.m. on Sunday, June 24th, LAPD received a complaint of a cock fight in progress at 13370 Borden Avenue, in Sylmar.

Two patrol units were dispatched. When they arrived between 40 and 50 people were witnessed participating in this illegal activity. The crowd quickly dispersed but five suspects were apprehended and arrested.

One juvenile was arrested for violating 602WIC/597C and two adults were cited to appear in court for violating 597C of the California Penal Code (spectator at an animal fight). Two adults were cited to appear in court for violating 597j of the California Penal Code (owning roosters with the intent of fighting). Additional information on suspects will be forthcoming following arraignment if formally charged with a crime. The arraignment date is set for August 8th.

The ACTF collected 23 dead birds found at the site. 19 birds that sustained terminal injuries resulting from fighting were humanely euthanized on site.

Detective Brumagin, the ACTF lead investigator said, "This appears to have been a sophisticated operation. Thankfully all persons were cooperative and we expect charges will soon be filed with the City Attorneys Office."

The LA Animal Cruelty Task Force is a cooperative animal welfare program involving the LA Police Department, LA Animal Services, and the LA City Attorney's Office.

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.